N. J. DIVISION
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
NEWARK PUB. LIB PERIODICALS AQUSI
5 WASHNGTON ST PO BOX 630
NEWARK, NJ 07101
NEW JERSEY DIVISION C
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

CITY NEWS
Edition
March 18-March 24, 1998
Vol. 15, No. 24
Serving New Jersey's African-American communities since 1983
50 cents

INSIDE THIS WEEK

National page 3
Authorities investigate racist threats at college

ARTZ page 8
No Lye author to visit Tunde Dada inWoodbridge

Local page 10
Baraka talks Jazz intermingled with politics

Violence, allegations mount as racial gangs war in prisons

By Steve Geissinger Associated Press Writer

SUSANVILLE, Calif. (AP)— At High Desert State Prison, one of California's newest and most violent prisons, tensions are high between the different races and the gangs that run largely along racial lines.

Fights happen, but it's worse now that a federal grand jury investigating another prison has accused guards of intentionally setting the prisoners up for gladiator-like fights-putting known enemies together in the yard.

'The last time I saw this (much racial violence) was in the 1980s in San Quentin," said A.C. Liggins, a black 43-year-old burglar.

Among the policies: purposely mixing up the different races and gangs to diffuse tensions. The policy sometimes backfires when the numbers tip to one side or the other, leaving one group greatly outnumbered.

High Desert, 150 miles northeast of Sacramento, is so plagued by racial strife that the death toll of two inmates in 1996-the first full year of its operation-was higher than at any other state prison.

Corrections Department officials are dealing with serious racial problems at two other high-security prisons: Pelican Bay State Prison, in the far northwestern corner of the state, and at Corcoran State Prison in the San Joaquin Valley.

The federal grand jury accused eight guards at Corcoran of pitting the inmates in deadly fights for the guards' amusement.

"At this point, to draw any connection (between allegations at the three prisons) would be premature," said Corrections Department spokeswoman Kati Corsaut.

Prison officials argue that the 1997 death toll, when compared against the increasing prison population, shows the death rate has dropped significantly. Official 1997 figures and death rates will be released later this year.

Since High Desert opened in late 1995, there have been at least five racial melees.

George, 47, is serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole. He and some of the other seven inmates interviewed say they're upset about new grooming standards-short haircuts, no beards or big mustaches or Hitler-like mustaches. The regulations, touted as a security measure by officials, build tension and contribute to violence, the inmates say.

High Desert officials say there was no intentional act.

"We as a society are integrated. If these people are going back to society, they have to be able to live with other groups," Corrections Department spokeswoman Christine May said.

"It's kind of weird," said Pablo Ramirez, a Hispanic serving time for carjacking and robbery. "Even though I'm not racist, you come here and you have to pay attention to race. If it comes to my race, I'm going to jump because I've got to survive in here."

NEWS BRIEFS

Brawl ends state basketball playoff game

NEWARK (AP)—The state's scholastic sports authority said Thursday it will not decide for at least two months what action, if any, to take against two high school basketball teams whose playoff game ended prematurely when fans poured onto the court and began fighting.

Long Branch High School was leading Camden, 58-47, with about a minute left to play when game officials halted the contest.

The 16 officers at the game, including four from Camden, required the assistance of 19 more police, including nearly a dozen from two nearby towns, Kinney said.

Phylicia Rashad buys remains of historically black school

CHESTER, S.C. (AP)—A historically black school closed for 59 years will open a new chapter under the ownership of "Cosby" star, actress Phylicia Rashad.

Phylicia Rashad

Rashad paid $115,000 to the Lutz Family Partnership late last month for the Brainerd Institute's lone remaining building and 12.5 acres.

Her mother, Vivian Ayers Allen, is a graduate of Brainerd, which opened in 1866 as a school for recently freed slaves.

Among its graduates were the Rev. Mansel Phillip Hall, the first president of Rock Hill, SC historically black Friendship College

Higher property taxes is the price of fiscal stability in East Orange

EAST ORANGE—After two months in office Mayor Robert Bowser recently gave the city of East Orange a favorable fiscal prognosis despite a legacy of grave budgetary problems from the last administration.

Bob Bowser

Bowser outlined a budgetary plan to correct the what one report called the lax financial practices of former Mayor Cardell Cooper, and said city taxpayers will most definitely see an increase in property taxes over last year. "Let me assure you, the future for the city is very bright," Bowser said. "The first 60 days have reinforced my commitment to running this city like a business that's solely for the purposes of delivering the best services we can to all of our citizens."

Rev. Jesse Jackson speaks on Clinton scandal

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass. (AP) — The longer the accusations of sexual misconduct against President Clinton go on, the rougher the going gets for the accusers, according to the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Jackson, speaking recently at Monument Mountain High School, said, "The longer the allegations persist without a conclusion and proof, the more suspect the American people will be of them,"

Whitman puts $50,000 price on Assata Shakur's head

TRENTON—After writing U.S. Attorney Janet Reno for help in her apprehension, Governor Christie Whitman put aside $50,000 from the governor's discretionary fund as a reward for the capture of Assata Shakur.

Shakur, also known as Joanne Chesimard, was convicted of the 1977 murder of a state trooper. She escaped from jail and fled to Cuba. Maintaining her innocence, Chesimard said in a recent television interview that rather than killing anyone, "I was shot with my arms in the air, then shot again in the back and left on the ground to die."

Grandmother says God will help Emmanuel cope

By Kai Atiba Niyonu

"I feel that God has a purpose behind this all, we're looking to God to be able to get the glory out of this thing." Said Mrs. Laura Burris in speaking about the recent murder of her daughter Andrea Nikisha Burris who died February 9, of a gunshot wound to the face by her fiancé, Andre Lewis, after breaking off their wedding.

Now Laura Burris has the job of helping her 11-year-old grandson, Emmanuel Burris, cope with the tragic death of his Mother, which he witnessed.

"Emmanuel is a loving young man and he is shattered by the death of his mother but yet he keeps on loving because of God being in his life since the day he came in the world," Burris said. We thank God that he knows how to love and he's praying for Andre".

Emmanuel is receiving counseling at Children's Specialized Hospital, in Mountainside. "They're dealing with him now, walking him through, but first of all, God has got to walk him through it first. But we're trusting God every step of the way that God will keep him and guide him and he learns to love the Lord so that he can walk as a Godly man," explained Mrs. Burris

She described her daughter as a "very loving and caring person, having a lot of compassion and love for people." Mrs. Burris believes that "if losing her life will call others to come to life then I am pleased and so is God."

A forgiving and compassionate woman herself, Mrs. Burris spoke kindly of the family whose son took her daughter's life. "That family is important—they love the Lord too. I want to thank the Lord for Mrs. Lewis, she's been very supportive towards Emmanuel and her family and I thank God for them and the love they've shown towards my Grandson."

A benefit concert for the Emmanuel Burris Scholarship Fund presented by Purple WOO Productions, Inc. and Ebony Police Association was held Friday, March 13th at Plainfield High School. Before the concert got started, Emmanuel thanked everyone for coming out in his support.

A support account for Emmanuel Burris has been established March 9 by five Plainfield women. "Our group would like to make sure that Emmanuel has every opportunity to be a happy, healthy, and productive young man who will make positive contributions to his family, his community, and his world," says Darlene McWilliams, First Lady of Plainfield.

To make a donation, contact Linda Hawkins-Todman of United National Bank at 908-756-5000, ext. 2207 or 2205.

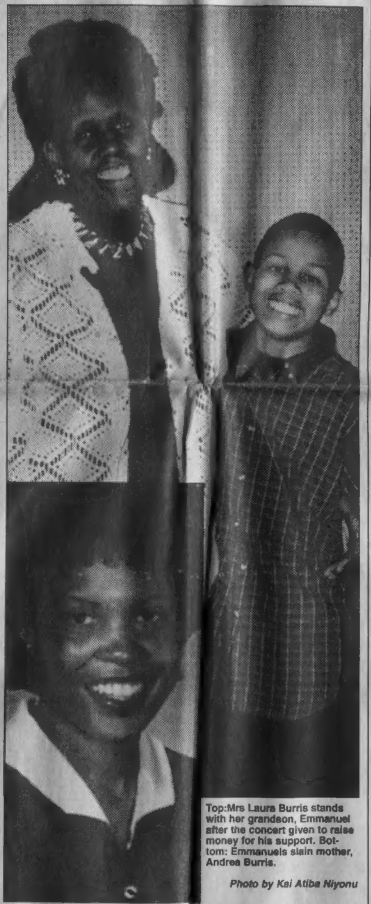

Top:Mrs Laura Burris stands with her grandson, Emmanuel after the concert given to raise money for his support. Bottom: Emmanuels slain mother, Andrea Burris.

Photo by Kai Atiba Niyonu

Member of radical move group dies in prison

CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS, Pa. (AP)—Merle Austin Africa, a member of MOVE who was serving a 30- to 100-year sentence for killing a Philadelphia police officer, has died at a state prison in Crawford County.

An autopsy was scheduled for today to determine the cause of death. State police said there was no indication of foul play.

Ms. Africa, 47, of Philadelphia was ill and her cellmate at the state prison in Cambridge Springs summoned a guard. A nurse and guards attended to Ms. Africa until an ambulance arrived to take her to Meadville Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead shortly before 4 a.m. Friday.

"We're saddened by her death, and the MOVE organization as well as Merle's family right now is grieving," said MOVE lawyer Paul Hetznecker. ``With respect to the actual occurrence we'll find out more in the next couple of days."

Besides Ms. Africa, MOVE members Debbi Sims Africa, Janet Holloway and Janine Phillips Africa were housed at the Cambridge Springs prison. All were among nine MOVE members convicted in the 1978 death of Philadelphia police Officer James Ramp.

The group's members adopted the surname Africa, espoused equality with animals and preached against technology.

Last summer, children of the Bruderhof Christian commune held a protest at the prison to draw attention to the four women. They said the women were political prisoners because no weapons were found on them and none were found to have pulled the trigger.

In 1985, police exchanged gunfire with MOVE members who barricaded themselves in a West Philadelphia rowhouse. Police dropped a bomb on the house, sparking a fire that killed 11 people and devastated an entire city.

Diversity goals still intact after propostion 209

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Diversity goals continue to thrive in private and public arenas even though the governor has formally terminated enforcement of a state law giving preferences in state contracting to firms owned by ethnic minorities and women.

Voters last year passed Proposition 209, which prohibits using ethnicity and gender in consideration of college admission, state contracting and hiring, but city and county outreach programs to help small ``disadvantaged" firms aren't affected by the law. The same goes for similar programs for federal contracts.

Private businesses, too, want diversity among their suppliers.

``There's politics, and then there is business," said Rich Wilkins, vice president of Atlanta-based Procurement Resources Inc., which helps companies and municipalities expand their network of women and ethnic minority vendors.

``These companies see the handwriting on the wall. They know the country is changing, and they can't continue to do business the same way, no matter what the politicians say," Wilkins said.

On Tuesday, Gov. Pete Wilson ended enforcement of a law giving preferences in state contracting to firms owned by ethnic minorities and women. His action came a day after the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned contract preferences.

Despite the ruling, the agency in charge of the Alameda Corridor freight rail project in Southern California voted Thursday to award 22 percent of the construction contracts on the $2 billion transportation link to ethnic minority- and women-owned businesses.

``We feel it's achievable, doable and the right thing to do," said Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority general manager Gill V. Hicks.

The project, which has some federal funding, must meet U.S. Department of Transportation requirements that 10 percent of contracts go to disadvantaged businesses.

In the design phase, nearly 21 percent of the contracts have been granted to such firms. Contractors must also meet training and hiring goals, drawing some of their employees from neighborhoods affected by the project.

The U.S. Small Business Administration is also planning to increase women-owned businesses' share of federal contracting dollars from about $3.6 billion, or 1.8 percent, to 5 percent, or $10 billion, of the $200 billion worth of contracts the government awards a year.

Ethnic minorities and women obtained about $30 billion in business from the 500 largest U.S. companies in 1996, compared with $22 billion in 1990, according to Procurement Resources.

In addition, nearly 75 percent of Fortune 500 companies now have some type of supplier-diversity outreach programs. That's up from 50 percent in 1992, according to the consulting firm.

Annie and Meredith's excellent ski adventure

By Reggie Kavanaugh

Neither Plainfield Mayor Albert McWilliams nor his wife Darlene ski.

So when their daughter Annie, 13, thought she might enjoy trying this winter sport, her classmate Meredith Reece, whose Mom and Pop also stay off the slopes, suggested the two join Meredith's family friend Reggie Kavanaugh and his wife for what's become Meredith's annual weekend at Camelback ski resort in Tannersville, Penn.

The four Plainfield residents, plus Meredith's Mom who went along to catch up on some paperwork, took a condo just off the slopes in the Pocono Mountains, about two hours from central New Jersey.

Although Meredith started skiing at Camelback eight years ago and has

continued on page 6

Wardlaw-Hartridge eighth grade classmates Meredith Reece, 14, and Annie McWilliams, 13, (left and right), who live about a block apart in Plainfield, set off for their weekend ski adventure at Camelback in the Poconos.

Tiger Woods gets on Wheaties box

BY Ron Sirak
AP Golf Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The breakfast of the Masters champion is Wheaties.

Tiger Woods' newest commercial tie-in will be with General Mills as he becomes the eighth athlete to be a permanent representative of the cereal, sources told The Associated Press on Friday.

Representatives for Woods' agency, International Management Group, and General Mills refused to discuss the matter.

But General Mills planned a news conference for Monday at The Official All-Star Cafe at Disney's Wide World of Sports complex in Orlando, Fla., to announce its newest permanent champion. Woods lives in Orlando and is a part owner of the restaurant.

"There is a multiyear deal and it will be announced on Monday," said a source in the business community who is familiar with the plans. "Tiger will become a spokesman for Wheaties."

Another source, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said Woods will be promoted as one of the handful of athletes selected by Wheaties to be a permanent spokesman for the cereal. Many others have appeared on regional versions of the cereal box or appeared on the box in limited runs.

Olympic pole vaulter Bob Richards was the first permanent representative for the cereal billed as "the breakfast of champions," appearing on the box in the 1950s.

Others include Bruce Jenner, Mary Lou Retton, Chris Evert, Pete Rose and Walter Payton. Michael Jordan was the last permanent spokesman chosen and he was selected 10 years ago.

Woods has signed well over $100 million in endorsements since turning pro in August of 1996, including deals with Nike, Titleist, American Express and Rolex.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

CRANFORD—The Union County Teen Arts Festival, a two day celebration of the arts will be held at Union County College. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

GARWOOD—Women for Women has a new, free tax filing program. Please call 908-232-5787 to set up an appointment.

EDISON—The Middlesex County College Accounting Club is participating in volunteer income tax assistance (VITA), to help senior citizens and low income taxpayers complete their tax returns. The volunteers will be working on campus in Room 102 of the College's Technical Services Center from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. for more info, call 732-548-6000, ext. 3030. This program is by appointment only.

CN8—An education showcase which will help parents and teachers identify the best in educational programming airs on CN8, Comcast network, Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. For more info, call 908-851-6601.

TRENTON—New Jerseyans not currently registered to vote in their municipalities must do so by March 23rd to participate in the state's Annual School Election. Register to vote at the office of your municipal clerk or at your country board of elections.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

CALDWELL—Caldwell College hosts a Graduate Open House at 7:30 p.m. in the Academic Building. For more info, call 973-224-4424, ext. 408.

FREEHOLD—The Chosen Freeholders meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hall of Records, Main Street. For more info, call 908-431-7310.

NEW ORLEANS—The Nation's Black Mayors will convene in New Orleans for the 24th Annual Convention of the National Conference of Black Mayors from April 14th through April 18th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. For more info, call 404-892-0127.

TRENTON—The Humane Society of the United States and other coalition representatives will hold a press conference to announce the Bear Protection Bill, etc. 11 a.m. at The State House, Room 319 (3rd Fl.). For more info, call 732-566-3532.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

NEWARK—Mayor Sharpe James' Commission on the Status of Women will continue its celebration of "Women's History Month" by sponsoring its Sixth Annual Unsung Heroines Luncheon at the Robert Treat Hotel. For more info, call 973-733-5353.

SOMERSET—The 9th Garden State Home Show returns to the Garden State Exhibit Center through Sunday, March 22nd. Show hours are from 9:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. For more info, call 908-449-4004.

PLAINFIELD—Members of the Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center are invited to a Birthday Party starting at 1:30 p.m. Transportation can be provided. For more info, call 973-753-3506.

MOUNTAINSIDE—Beginners encouraged to join Watchung Troop program at the Watchung Stables. Applicants must be 9 years of age, or older. For more info, call 908-789-3665.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

BRIDGEWATER—The 4th Annual "Best of Branchburg Fundraising Dinner" will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Soriano's Classic Elegance. For more info, call 908-526-1200, ext. 8318.

WEST WINDSOR—"Life After the Task Force on NJ History: What Happens Now?" will be the focus of the Fifth Annual New Jersey History Issues Convention from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Mercer County Community. For more info, call 609-292-6062.

CN8—An education showcase which will help parents and teachers identify the best in educational programming airs on CN8, Comcast network, Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. For more info, call 908-851-6601.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

MOUNTAINSIDE—International Best Chefs Night will take place 6 p.m. at L'Affaire, Rt. 22. Washington Rock Girl Scout is the organizer of the event. Husband and wife, Sharon and Clifton Freshwater, the owners of Freshwaters will participate in this event. For more info, call 908-232-3236, ext. 218.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

WNET—Frontline – Angel on Death Row – A profile of Sister Helen Prejean, a longtime spiritual advisor to inmates on death row whose life's work and book inspired the motion picture Dead Man Walking. This program airs from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Channel 13.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College offers a series of one-day computer workshops designed to introduce students to computers and software applications on Saturdays. "Introduction to Windows 95" will be held today. For more info, call 201-200-3089.

East Orange resident gets scholarship

UNION—Ibn Howard, a Kean University freshman, accepts a $1,700 check from Dr. Richard Katz, president of The Kean Federation of Teachers (KFT). Howard, an East Orange resident, is currently a full-time accounting major at the University.The Kean Federation of Teachers Scholarship Committee awarded scholarships totaling$7,500 to five undergraduates and one graduate student at a recent ceremony in Kean's University Center. Recipients were selected based on an essay about a specific labor union of their choice, academic record and financial need.

Parade committee starts 20th year celebration

Parade chairman Donald Bernard, Sr. with Deputy Grand Marshall Patricia Hurt.

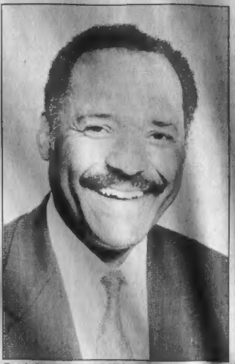
NEWARK—The 20th Year Celebration—"Building A Tradition" of the African American Heritage Parade (AAHP) began with a salute to this year's Deputy Grand Marshall Patricia Hurt, shown in photo at right, at a reception at the New Jersey Historical Society and then an Interfaith Spiritual Breakfast at the Robert Treat Hotel. Hurt is shown with Donald Bernard, Sr. Chairman of the AAHP Committee.

The African American Heritage Parade Committee partnered with the New Jersey Historical Society to host the reception and show a unique presentation by Bull's-Eye Production, Inc., "To Serve My Country, To Serve My Race". The documentary was written, produced and directed by Lawrence E. Walker and depicts the contributions of African American women who served in the military during World War II.

"This very distinctive evening celebrated the legacy and commitment African American women have made in history, Bernard said. "We celebrate their accomplishments with great pride and reverence. It is on the shoulders of these women that we stand and continue to 'build a tradition.'"

The 5th Annual Interfaith Breakfast honored the Rev. Reginald Jackson, Pastor of St. Matthew A.M.E. Church and Chairman of the Black Ministers Council with the Parade Committee's Heritage Award for Community Service. During his keynote address, Rev. Jackson challenged the audience "to be in the business of helping one another, respecting each other and being true role models for our youth."

Bolden to chair University of Vermont board



Frank Golden

BURLINGTON, VT—Frank A. Golden, of Berkeley Heights, N. J., will chair the Board of Trustees at the University of Vermont effective March 1. Bolden is vice president for corporate staff at Johnson & Johnson in New Brunswick, N. J.

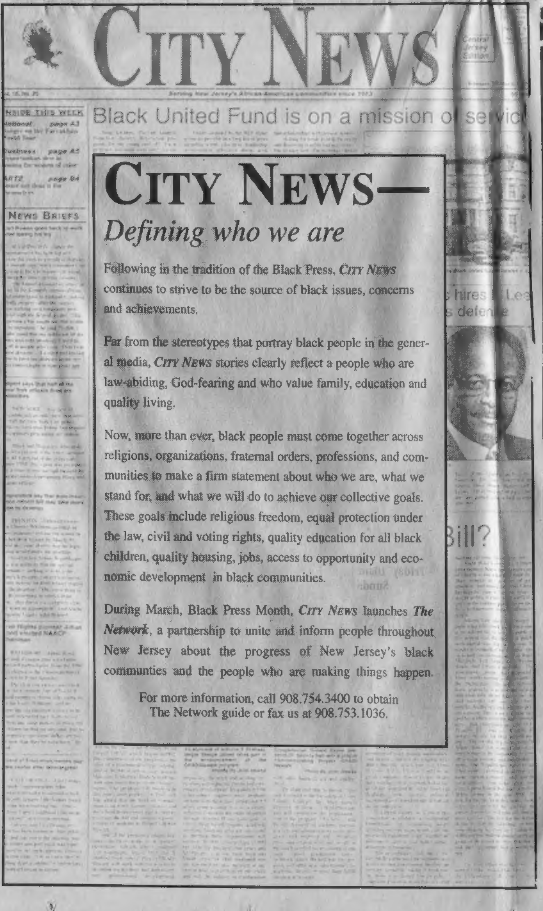
Born in Albany, Ga. Bolden attended public schools in Georgia and Brooklyn, N.Y. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont, a master's in business administration from Columbia University Graduate School of Business, and a law degree from Columbia University School of Law.

Bolden has served on the Board of Trustees at the University of Vermont since 1994.

He and his wife, Carol Parsons, have four children.

Part of a team

NEWARK—Prudential employees, from left, Emma Perry-White of Irvington, Karen O'Neal of Plainfield, and Sophronia Smith and Kelly Green-Bloomfield, both of Newark, and other Prudential volunteers recently spent a morning sorting canned food and other donated items at The Community Food Bank in Hillside. The Community Food Bank of New Jersey is the largest food bank of its kind in the country. Prudential employees use experiences like these as a team-building-through-community-service exercise, building cohesive work-groups while simultaneously contributing to real social needs.



CITY NEWS—

Defining who we are

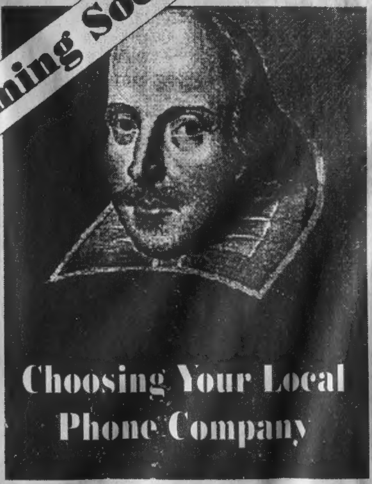
Following in the tradition of the Black Press, *CITY NEWS* continues to strive to be the source of black issues, concerns and achievements.

Far from the stereotypes that portray black people in the general media, *CITY NEWS* stories clearly reflect a people who are law-abiding, God-fearing and who value family, education and quality living.

Now, more than ever, black people must come together across religions, organizations, fraternal orders, professions, and communities to make a firm statement about who we are, what we stand for, and what we will do to achieve our collective goals. These goals include religious freedom, equal protection under the law, civil and voting rights, quality education for all black children, quality housing, jobs, access to opportunity and economic development in black communities.

During March, Black Press Month, *CITY NEWS* launches ***The Network***, a partnership to unite and inform people throughout New Jersey about the progress of New Jersey's black communties and the people who are making things happen.

For more information, call 908.754.3400 to obtain
The Network guide or fax us at 908.753.1036.



Coming Soon!

Choosing Your Local Phone Company

"To Switch or not to Switch?"

Take on the Role of an Informed Customer
Call the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
1(800) 624-0241

Making Smart Choices in New Markets...
It's Your Call

NATIONAL BRIEFS

Mary McLeod Bethune receives recognition

WASHINGTON—On March 19-21 1998 Albert McLeod Bethune, Jr., the grandson of Mary McLeod Bethune, will visit Washington, D.C. to participate in a series of activities honoring her legacy. Mrs. Bethune became the most celebrated African-American figure of the New Deal era and extended her influence as an educator, civil rights activist and advocate for women's equality into the 1950s. She founded the Daytona Normal and Industrial School for Negro Girls.

Ms. Bethune opened the doorsto the school on Oct. 4, 1904 with just $1.50, not even enough to pay the $11 a-month rent on the cottage that housed it. The school grew rapidly and eventually merged with Cookman Institute to become Bethune-Cookman College. Mrs. Bethune was active in a myriad of organizations. She served as vice president of the NAACP and in 1935 she organized and became president of the National Council of Negro Women, an umbrella organization for African-American women's clubs. Mrs. Bethune died in 1955 at age 79.For more information on the tribute call 703-222-0792.

New NAACP leader says young people lack 'can-do' spirit

UNIVERSITY CENTER, Mich. (AP)—Civil rights activist and new NAACP national leader Julian Bond says today's young people need to recapture the can-do spirit that led students to demand their rights in the 1960s.

"Young people today have missed the notion that they can do it," The Saginaw News quoted Bond as saying. "The fight for equal justice has become a spectator sport."

He led the audience through the history of the civil rights movement, punctuating the lecture with laughter-winning anecdotes.

He said that one day while walking, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. told him that because of the way black people were treated, "he had a nightmare."

Bond said he told King, "No, turn that around. You have a dream."

Manager fired, but chain denies discrimination

MIAMI (AP)—A Denny's manager was fired but did not discriminate by denying service to a mixed-race group of state prison officers on two occasions, an internal investigation concluded.

"This is what I call a low blow to our intelligence," Clifford Fortner, one of the officers refused service, said after the restaurant chain released its conclusions Wednesday.

The group—six black and three white officers—charged they were turned away by a manager who said "you guys don't look right," and locked the door on them Jan. 2.

The Spartanburg, S.C.-based company also issued a statement saying, "They had every right to be upset by their experience, for which we apologize, but not to verbally attack our employees."

Annan battles for women's rights, advancement

DAKAR, Senegal (PANA) - United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan said the

participation of women at senior levels of national and international leadership

has been limited for "far too long" and there are no excuse for this situation.

In a message from U.N. headquarters in New York for International Women's Day observed on Sunday, March 8, Annan said women's rights were the responsibility of humankind and achieving empowerment of women amounted to the advancement of all humankind. "The promotion of women's rights means the promotion of freedom, justice and the peaceful resolution of disputes; of social progress and better standards of living; of equality, tolerance and dignity," he said.

South African dignitarirs attend presentation of human rights award

LOS ANGELES— Councilwoman Marcine Shaw and executives of the NAACP attended a human rights awards dinner and met with dignitaries from the Zulu nation of South Africa, as well as South African singer and musician, Ray Phiri; the artist who inspired and performed on Paul Simon's *Graceland* recently at a dinner to celebrate the 29th anniversary of the Citizens Commission on Human Rights. The organization was recognized for its vital work and reforms in South Africa.

Corporate ads depicted blacks as cannibals

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

In January the NAACP demanded that the Goodyear Tire Company pull a TV ad on stations in Latin America that depicted Blacks as savages and mocked their physical features. While Goodyear complied, it wasn't the only American company that has traded in vile racist stereotypes to push its products.

Thousands of TV viewers in Peru saw a group of half-naked Blacks with war paint and bones stuck through their noses dancing around Whites tied to wooden stakes. The Blacks were cannibals. The Whites, their meal. The Whites are saved when the Blacks are tossed packs of Royal Dessert, a Nabisco brand snack.

The racially slanderous ad aired twice in 1996. Nabisco pulled the ad and apologized. But it did not fully explain how and why it was allowed to appear, nor what action was taken against the ad agency responsible for it.

There are reports that McDonalds, Pepsi and Coca Cola also aired racially offensive commercials or sponsored popular variety programs that grotesquely caricatured Blacks as singing, dancing, happy go lucky clowns, cannibals, crooks, and prostitutes.

Observers report that these commercials and variety shows with American corporate sponsors air on Spanish language TV stations in cities in the U.S. These stations represent the fastest growing consumer TV viewing audience and market in the U.S, and are watched by millions of viewers. Spanish language TV and radio shows have racked up the highest ratings in the Southern California media market.

Many Latinos are recent immigrants to the U.S. Many have little knowledge of African-American culture, customs, and are unfamiliar with the history of racial discrimination, and segregation in the U.S. The negative images of African Americans in commercials reinforce their view of Blacks as clowns, coons, and criminals.

Other than the action by the NAACP against the Goodyear ads, these commercials have drawn little attention, and few protests. There's a reason. McDonalds, Coca-Co have African-Americans in their commercials in the U.S. as achieving, prosperous professionals, and businesspersons with intact families. This is not corporate altruism, it's a matter of dollars. According to Target Market News, in 1996 Americans spent an estimated $367 million on goods and services. In

1995, they accounted for 25 percent of Coke's and 15 percent of McDonalds' total sales. They spent more on clothing, appliances, and food items per capita than any other group in America, and are more likely to purchase brand name products.

This guarantees corporate giants such as Coke, McDonalds, Nabisco, and Goodyear a steady flow of Black dollars.

The NAACP and Black consumer groups must demand that corporations strictly monitor the commercials their ad agencies air in foreign countries to insure that racially offensive stereotypes are not used to promote their products.

Black consumers must ask when they pay for their next Coke, Big Mac, Goodyear tire, box of cereal, crackers or snack pack from Nabisco, if they are also paying for the degradation of their image in foreign countries.

Dr. Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of "The Assassination of the Black Male Image" and the forthcoming, "The Crisis in Black and Black."

'Target practice' slaying suspects outline Texas murder

By Christy Lemire,
Associated Press Writer

GRAND PRAIRIE, Tex. (AP)—The plan of the two Texan men began simply: their first victim would be black and they'd keep killing until they had five victims, or maybe 10.

But instead they went after Amy Robinson, a mentally retarded 19-year-old with whom they had worked at a grocery store in Arlington.They said the fact that she was part American Indian allowed them to violate their vow to make their first victim black.

The men brazenly admit that they turned Ms. Robinson into "target practice," shooting her with arrows, a pellet gun and a pistol.

Then, said one, "we just busted out laughing."

Robert Neville Jr., 23, and Michael Hall, 18, were arrested March 3 in the Texas-Mexico border town of Eagle Pass. They are charged with the capital murder of Ms. Robinson, who had been missing since Feb. 15. With the suspects' guidance, police found the woman's ravaged body in a Fort Worth field.

From behind bars in Eagle Pass, Neville and Hall have nonchalantly recounted details of the attack. In interviews with the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Dallas television station KDFW, the pair laughed, smiled and spoke of wanting the death penalty.

"I'd probably have to say it was just for the adrenaline rush," Neville said.

"She was suffering anyway," Hall said, apparently referring to Ms. Robinson's affliction with Turner's syndrome, a rare chromosome disorder in women characterized by short stature and the lack of sexual development at puberty. "So I guess we just gave her a back door."

"If they have to put me against a wall, shoot me to death ... that's what I deserve," Neville said. "I'll probably end up asking for it anyway."

Said Hall: "Myself, I would choose death row."

On Monday, Neville and Hall received court-appointed attorneys. Both were on suicide watch in isolated cells, each facing $500,000 bond.

Authorities investigate racist threats to college students

NORTH MANCHESTER, Ind. (AP)—The FBI, along with campus authorities and local police, are investigating a threatening, racist e-mail message sent to most minority students at Manchester College.

The message, which was sent Monday morning, may be linked to bar fights last week that involved students and non-students and had racial overtones, police said Tuesday.

Stan Escott, vice president of student development at Manchester College, said the e-mail was sent from an on-campus terminal to an address that protects the identity of the sender. The name "mike graver," which is believed to by a pseudonym, is listed at the top of the e-mail message.

School and FBI officials were attempting to use the court system Tuesday to learn the author's identity. Escott said there is a "99.9 percent chance" the source will be found.

The e-mail was sent to students who are members of the Manchester College International Association, Hispanos Unidos, Black Student Union and Hispanic American.

The e-mail read: "Your time is up. The niggers, the spics, and the f—— immigrants are through. You have caused enough trouble in this town and your f— days are numbered. ``White f— Power!

"We shall do whatever else it takes to address this to ensure that Manchester College is a place at which every student can feel secure and supported," college President Parker Marden said.

The school has set up an e-mail address called RUMOR to help ease students' fears. Students can e-mail questions to college administrators and receive a response.

Ariane Young, a black student who received the e-mail message Monday, said the administration has been sensitive and cautious. Nonetheless, she said the message was something she didn't expect at Manchester, a private college of 1,017 students. Ten percent of the students are minorities.

"This is just really messed up," Ms. Young said.

The person who sent the message could be charged with a federal hate crime, police said.

Payne speaks at Peace Corps headquarters

WASHINGTON—Congressman Donald Payne, D-N.J., center, recently spoke to more than 100 Peace Corps employees at the agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C., as He is shown herewith Peace Corps Director Mark Gearan, at left, and Peace Corps Deputy Director Charles Baquet, III, at right.

As the guest speaker at the Peace Corps Director's Forum, Congressman Payne, the former Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, spoke about notable African Americans who have made a difference in the lives of all Americans. Payne, who serves on the House International Relations Committee, also spoke about the future of Africa and reiterated his strong support of President Clinton's proposal to expand the Peace Corps.

Rev. Lyons' woes impacts on bible college

By Kendall Wilson
Special to the NNPA from The Philadelphia Tribune

While Rev. Henry Lyons struggles with his current legal dilemmas, the National Baptist Convention USA Inc. (NBC), the organization which he heads, is experiencing its own financial crisis.

On Feb. 26, the Pinellas-Pasco State Attorney's Office accused Rev. Lyons of swindling money from big companies, spending money meant for burned churches and hiding $4.8 million in a secret convention account he used mostly for lavish personal purchases, according to reports from The St. Petersburg Times.

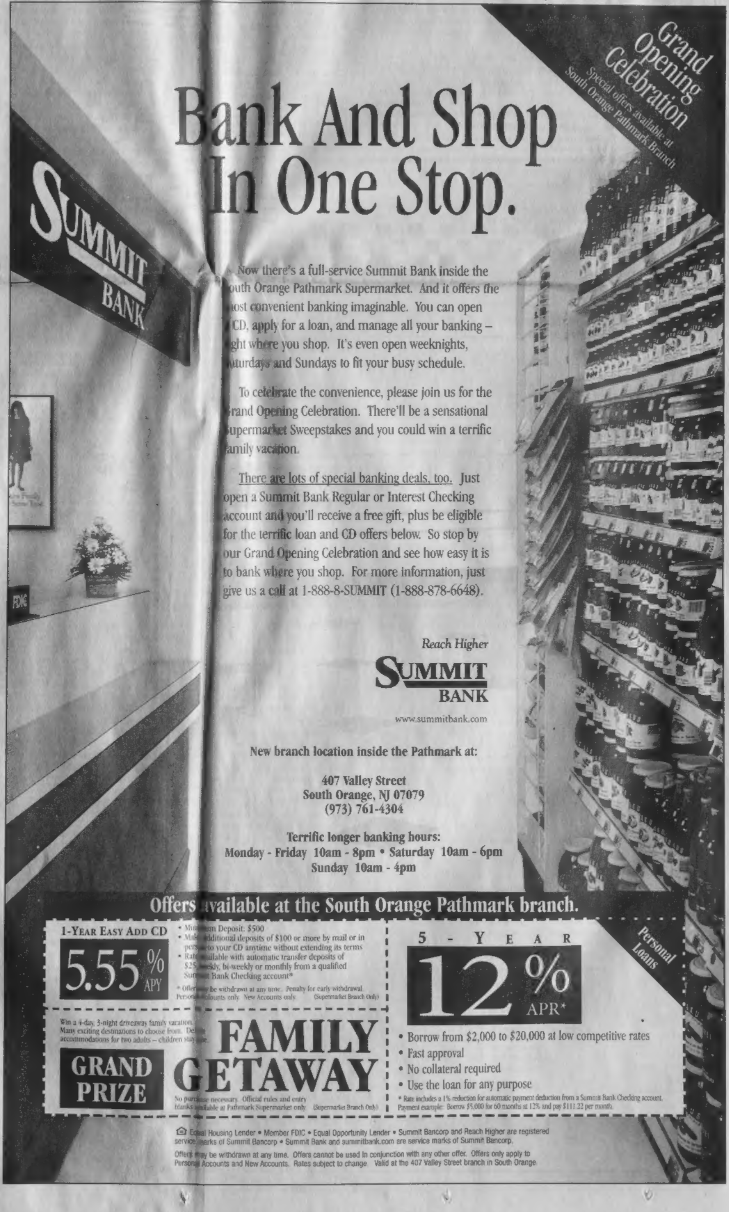
While the Convention is currently maintaining their support of Rev. Lyons, general secretary Roscoe Cooper told The St. Petersburg Times that the Convention will not be paying Rev. Lyons' legal bills.

In fact, the Convention is having difficulty meeting all of its financial obligations. It has stopped supporting its 700 student Bible college, causing a "severe financial crisis" at the school.

Dr. Bernard Lafayette Jr., the college president, said conditions are so grave, he and other officials have worked without pay for more than a month.

"It's been a real struggle," Lafayette said to The St. Petersburg Times.

He said administrators are teaching some classes because the school cannot afford professors. Repairs have been delayed and a hiring freeze is in effect.



Grand Opening Celebration
Special offers available at South Orange Pathmark Branch

Bank And Shop In One Stop.

Now there's a full-service Summit Bank inside the South Orange Pathmark Supermarket. And it offers the most convenient banking imaginable. You can open CD, apply for a loan, and manage all your banking – right where you shop. It's even open weeknights, Saturdays and Sundays to fit your busy schedule.

To celebrate the convenience, please join us for the Grand Opening Celebration. There'll be a sensational Supermarket Sweepstakes and you could win a terrific family vacation.

There are lots of special banking deals, too. Just open a Summit Bank Regular or Interest Checking account and you'll receive a free gift, plus be eligible for the terrific loan and CD offers below. So stop by our Grand Opening Celebration and see how easy it is to bank where you shop. For more information, just give us a call at 1-888-8-SUMMIT (1-888-878-6648).

Reach Higher
SUMMIT BANK
www.summitbank.com

New branch location inside the Pathmark at:

407 Valley Street
South Orange, NJ 07079
(973) 761-4304

Terrific longer banking hours:
Monday - Friday 10am - 8pm • Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 10am - 4pm

Offers available at the South Orange Pathmark branch.

1-YEAR EASY ADD CD
5.55% APY
- Minimum Deposit: $500
- Make additional deposits of $100 or more by mail or in person to your CD anytime without extending its terms
- Rate available with automatic transfer deposits of $25 weekly, bi-weekly or monthly from a qualified Summit Bank Checking account*

* Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Penalty for early withdrawal. Personal Accounts only. New Accounts only (Supermarket Branch Only)

Win a 4-day, 3-night driveaway family vacation. Many exciting destinations to choose from. Deluxe accommodations for two adults – children stay free.
GRAND PRIZE
FAMILY GETAWAY
No purchase necessary. Official rules and entry blanks available at Pathmark Supermarket only (Supermarket Branch Only)

Personal Loans
5-YEAR
12% APR*
- Borrow from $2,000 to $20,000 at low competitive rates
- Fast approval
- No collateral required
- Use the loan for any purpose

* Rate includes a 1% reduction for automatic payment deduction from a Summit Bank Checking account. Payment example: Borrow $5,000 for 60 months at 12% and pay $111.22 per month.

Equal Housing Lender • Member FDIC • Equal Opportunity Lender • Summit Bancorp and Reach Higher are registered service marks of Summit Bancorp • Summit Bank and summitbank.com are service marks of Summit Bancorp.

Offers may be withdrawn at any time. Offers cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers only apply to Personal Accounts and New Accounts. Rates subject to change. Valid at the 407 Valley Street branch in South Orange.

EDITORIAL

Five women and a police officer

The recent concert to benefit Emmanuel Burris of Plainfield, whose mother was gunned down right before his eyes, is an example of what people can do when stirred to action in defense of one of their own.

After such a traumatic experience, Young Mr. Burris will need counseling to help him cope with the lost of a loving mother. Five women are responsible for spearheading this show of support. Pamela Hattem, Felicia McNeil, Darlene McWilliams, Victoria Rappold and Trina Rollins, all mothers themselves, deserve the credit and the thanks of the community for anticipating needs that situations like this cause, and quickly responding not only to this particular case, but ensuring that other cases like this have the resources available to get the help they need.

A lot of people talk about what should be done. In organizing this concert Ken Reid, of the Plainfield police department demonstrated the "can do" spirit needed to take care of our own.

Every Plainfield resident, especially parents, are urged to make a contribution to this fund. Who knows whose child will need it next.

It is the belief of Plainfield's First Lady, Darlene McWilliams that, "children are our most valuable resource." She continues: "I also believe that world peace, prosperous communities, academic excellence and other quality of life accomplishments can only be attained if we make our children first. Our children are our future and our legacy, and every attempt should be taken to keep them healthy and safe.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I wish that the constant uproar regarding who President Clinton slept with would cease.

I ask the people of this nation who are now saying that they are ashamed that their children are subjected to this subject on the evening news.

I asked them were they not just as ashamed to learn or know that George Washington, the supposed "Father of the country," was in fact the owner of slaves; and he departed from this life as a direct result of a visit on an exceptionally cold night to his mistress in the slave quarters, in which he came down with a dreadful illness and died. I can imagine the resentment that Martha Washington must have felt at his funeral.

I further ask the same public did they feel no shame to learn that Thomas Jefferson, the "Great Thinker" the libertarian who also owned slaves; and at one point, while married took a young slave girl— in fact, his wife's half-sister, Mary Hemming to Paris as his mistress, while he held the position as America's Ambassador to France.

I wonder what the American public thought of it's past history of slave masters while married to white women; slept at night with his slave mistress, and contrary to popular belief, slept with the Black mistress in the same house and not in the slave quarters.

Later, when the slave mistress or Jezebel, as she was known, bore his children, some were taken from her and sold down the river; while the others were raised on the lap of the mothers Black slave husband; who had to accept the master's child by his wife along with his own.

I ask if the American public knew this, I wonder weren't they as ashamed as many say they are, if it is true about President Clinton's present behavior; surely the dialog on race that the President called for must indeed include the above discussion.

Wilburt Rornegay,
Clinton Hill-South Ward Improvement Association, Inc.

Why February ?

By C. Mason Weaver

I wonder who picked the coldest, wettest, shortest month of the year to remember the history of African people and their descendants in America? How did we come to have Black History Month in February?

Why not remember the history of Black people during January for the month Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation and the birthday of Dr. King? Perhaps, we could recognize it during December for the make-believe holiday of Kwanzaa. How about June in recognition of "Juneteenth," the liberation of slaves in Texas?

Why February? Slavery was abolished by Congress in April 1862; the thirteenth amendment was ratified in December of 1865. Why not one of these months? The modern history of Africans in America began with the arrival of Columbus; slavery began in August 1619 at Jamestown, Virginia.

It seems to me that recognition of Black History was chosen with no recognition of history. However, the real question should not be what month, but why. I understand the pride Black Americans have in our history and contributions to this country. However, I fail to understand why we insist upon government recognition, news specials and public acknowledgment of our contributions.

The history of Africans in America as well as that of Black Americans should be maintained privately within the culture, not paraded out every February. When we allow the government, the schools, media and others to lead the remembrance of our history, we are in danger of losing it.

I applaude the NAACP in Oceanside, California as they take the lead in preserving Black History with the Juneteenth celebration and Martin Luther King Awards. Both are private, cultural events that will huarantee the integrity of the history. Nevertheless, let us rethink the idea of a special for Black History

The Black community is far too complex to be identified as one culture and our history is far too complex for one month. We, Black Americans, should recognize our historical responsibilities every month. There is a lot to gain from history and a large debt to pay.

While we honor the contemporary heroes in our communities let us not forget why we honor them. There are black men that served with the Tuskegee airmen of World War II, retired Marines that broke the Marine color in the 1940's and many other historical accomplishments.

However, the real lessons of history are not what they did but why they were forced to do so. Discrimination, segregation and a racist culture forced and shaped our history. If we honor the history of a struggle, we owe a debt to honor the price paid in the struggle.

Being the descendants of African Kings and Queens is of little value if we are acting like paupers and sheep. It does not matter what month we celebrate our history — it matters only how you honor it.

There is no honor in remembering their sacrifices if we are not going to take advantage of what they gained. They broke open the doors, the real celebration will be going through them. Struggling through adversity is our history. What we do with the victory is our legacy.

Let us not spend more time remembering our history than we do in making tomorrow's history. We cannot take pride in what someone else has done with his or her situation, only in what we have done with ours. It is called "self-pride."

C. Mason Weaver is the president of the Committee to Restore America and a member of the African-American leadership network Project 21.

City News
The New Journal of Civilization
144 North Avenue,
Plainfield, N.J. 07060
(908) 754-3400

PUBLISHER
Henry C. Johnson, Ph.D.
EDITOR IN CHIEF
Jan M. Edgenton Johnson
MANAGING EDITOR
Jeremee L. Johnson
ASSISTANT EDITOR
g.r. mattox
LAYOUT
C.J. Johnson

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Henry C. Johnson, Sr.
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Kai Niyonu

How to reach us
Editorial: (908) 754-3400
Advertising: (908) 754-3401
Circulation: (908) 754-3402

Fax: (908) 753-1036
E-mail: CityNews97@aol.com

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07060.

HEADQUARTERS
144 North Avenue,
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Copyright (c) 1997 City News Publishing

Aida Alvarez: the right person at the right time

By Harry C. Alford

The Small Business Administration had been on a long slide into the abyss since the days of the Honorable Parren Mitchell. Mitchell kept this important agency under his "microscope" and ensured its only direction was upward. The Reagan and Bush administrations sort of hurried the slide along with an aura of "benign neglect." The bureaucrats within the SBA entrenched themselves. They were actually reinforced as it became a dumping ground for frustrated career government workers.

The Clinton Administration's initial reaction to its challenge of changing such a dinosaur culture was to put the ever-efficient Erskine Bowles over the SBA. Erskine set lofty goals and moved with great vitality. His patience soon wore thin as he set out to change the 5,000 entrenched mindsets that lay before him.

Phil Lader replaced Administrator Bowles, who is now Chief of Staff at the White House. If Erskine Bowles was Mr. Hands-On Manager and everywhere at all times, Phil was the opposite. Phil Lader was like a shadow. The entrenched bureaucrats started breathing that air of the past and began to continue the reversal.

The SBA was in the "pits." The Board of Directors of the National Black Chamber of Commerce began personally criticizing certain deputies and district directors. A question that started entering my mind was "Should the SBA be put to death?"

The sudden loss of Ron Brown and the 1996 elections put the negative posturing on hold for awhile. With the new administration entered Aida Alvarez, someone I knew very little about. Ms. Alvarez came from HUD and was placed in the proverbial hot seat. We decided to be patient and see just what she could do.

Ms. Alvarez has been to the SBA what Bill Parcells is to any football team he coaches. He changes the personality of the entity and motivates each person and part into a positive force. He wins no matter who he is coaching! Aida Alvarez has transformed the 5,000 players at the SBA into a positive motivational force. The change is evident from the deputies to the secretaries.

What the public now sees at the SBA is a constant outreaching to all communities. The SBA is now a TEAM! Managers are given specific goals that will measure their performance and they will publicly report on how they are doing. The aggressiveness and the attitude of winning has now become apparent.

What a great treat for the Honorable Parren J. Mitchell to witness the agency he so dearly cared for be restored to greatness. Aida Alvarez is on the move and its upward!

Harry C. Alford is President/CEO, National Black Chamber of Commerce.

A case of reluctant recognition

By George Wilson

For the time being, we can all breathe a sigh of relief that the United States will not be dropping bombs on Iraqi citizens. This respite is due to the outstanding diplomacy of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. When the "war hawks" were busy preparing to bomb Iraq, Annan was actually talking with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein about peace.

One would think that Annan's efforts would be cheered by the masses of the world population. Instead what we are witnessing is a muted adulation. Annan is politely cheered on one hand, while the other side raises questions about the type of deal he cut with the Iraqis. Some have said that they doubted if Annan had the "right stuff" to deal with Saddam Hussein. Let's be honest. Annan would not be in the position he occupies without at least the tacit endorsement of the U.S. government.

I can't help but recall the look on Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's face when it became known that the Iraqi government had agreed to allow UN weapons inspectors anywhere in Iraq without conditions. Albright's expression indicated anything but joy. In fact, it resembled the look of one who had just stepped in animal droppings.

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott spoke on the floor of the Senate about statements made by Annan indicating his trust for Saddam Hussein. Lott thought this statement was ridiculous because of Iraq's past of broken agreements. Apparently, Senator Lott has conveniently forgotten all of the treaties and promises that American governments have broken.

Cynthia McKinney (D-GA) is a member of the House International URelations Committee and one of the few African-American leaders who have dared to publicly commend Annan for his exemplary work. "Kofi Annan has saved the United States from making a terrible mistake. He has saved the world from an unnecessary conflagration or large destructive fire," she said.

The lack of praise for Annan's work and the second guessing of his techniques only leads to a conclusion that some will find uncomfortable. If he was of a different hue, he would be clearing out a spot in his home for the Nobel Peace Prize, as well as being the object of adulation from a grateful nation.

Congresswoman McKinney notices a certain amount of "double speak" on the part of politicians on this issue. "I find it quite hypocritical for politicians like Newt Gingrich to stand up and talk about how we have to keep the Iraqis from having access to biological weapons when he and others have full knowledge of the fact that were it not for the U.S. transfer of material to the Iraqi government when they were considered allies, we wouldn't be at this point today, "McKinney noted.

What is needed in the Iraqi situation is a coherent policy rooted in a true concern for peace and not based on "saber rattling" and arrogance. Kofi Annan was successful because he applied the basic principle of respect for the person he was speaking with. Perhaps the President, Secretary of State and others can take a page from his book.

George Wilson is a veteran Capitol Hill correspondent for the American Urban Radio Network.

Improving our schools from the bottom up

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

The Black community is one of the most loyal voting constituencies in the Democratic Party. Democrats get 80-90 percent of the black vote in most elections. Or they have, until recently. Many Americans—black and white—are reevaluating their relationship to the two parties. The black community is coming to suspect that neither the Democrats nor the Republicans will put an end to racism and discrimination.

For the moment, however, the majority of Black America votes Democratic. But now a rather substantial rift is growing between ordinary Black folks and Black elected officials.

Where do we see this rift? One of the most glaring places we see it is in the area of education. Here's what's happening.

The public school system in our inner cities is in a shambles. Kids aren't learning. The physical plant is deteriorating. The conditions are demoralizing for staff and students alike. The curriculum is old. The textbooks are old. The furniture is old.

Parents are profoundly concerned. Many have been fighting for years to improve the quality of education — first through integration, then through community control, then through multi-cultural curriculum. These approaches have achieved only limited progress.

In the midst of this set of circumstances, some new proposals and education movements have arisen. They include the charter schools movement and the voucher movement. The first, charter schools, permits communities, parents and teachers to set up their own public schools, which receive the "per child" tax allotment that would otherwise have gone to their neighborhood public school.

The voucher movement is a step in the direction of privatization. Here parents receive a voucher —equivalent to the tax allotment that would be spent on their child in the public school system—and may use it to send their child to a private school.

The Democratic Party and most black elected officials have vocally opposed these two measures. Why? The answer is complicated. The public school system in the inner cities has been a source of jobs for minority professionals, most of who are politically linked to the Democratic Party. They don't want to introduce any measures that might impact on their jobs. That's a problem, since it puts them at odds with the educational needs of our children.

But the parents of kids who are trapped in deteriorated and substandard inner city schools simply want to get their kids out of that situation and into a better one.

The voucher and charter schools are spurring new coalitions between Black, Hispanic and white parents. They all want their kids to get a good education. They feel they are entitled to use their tax dollars to get it. And all are unhappy with the quality of their kids' education.

This is a new and significant turn in American politics. These kinds of bottom-up, anti-establishment, liberal and conservative coalitions are coming together more frequently. Part of that involves the black community being willing to challenge black elected officials with the following question" Are you loyal to us *or* to the Democratic Party?

Dr Lenora Fulani is currently a leading activist in the Reform Party

Political Analysis:

FIELD ASSIGNMENT

Ken Gibson's Candidacy

By Walter Fields

The race for the Democratic nomination for Essex County Executive is drawing the attention of party regulars across the state. The seat is seen as the key to Democratic fortunes in New Jersey. Essex is still the nucleus of the party's base and no Democrat with statewide aspirations can expect to win without carrying the country. The county is also the best wild card that black Democrats have in holding the party's leadership accountable. There is no Democratic victory without without black votes. Simple math reveals that voters in Newark, East Orange, Irvington and Orange are the party's critical mass.

That is why the current race is shaping up to be one for the ages. Four years ago former East Orange mayor Cardell Cooper sought to become the state's first black county executive in seeking the Democratic nomination. From the outset Cooper's campaign was sabotaged by those, within the party, who could not accept the legitimacy of a black candidate. His opponent in that race was county Democratic chairman Tom Giblin. The primary resulted in an unlikely tie. By the time Cooper was certified the winner, the East Orange Democrat had lost valuable campaign time. White Democrats jumped ship, and Republican Jim Treffinger had played upon white voters' fears in the county's suburbs. Cooper lost the race by some 2,400 votes, the victim of his party's own racial paranoia.

This time the black candidate happens to be former Newark mayor Ken Gibson. He is facing Freeholder President Joseph DiVincenzo in the Democratic primary. Gibson is returning to the political stage after a twelve-year absence. The civil engineer made history in 1970 as the first black mayor of a major northeastern city. Upon his loss to Sharpe James in 1986, Gibson retired to the private sector. His re-emergence has frightened more than a few Democrats.

The campaign to discredit Gibson's candidacy began months ago. Once folks understood that he was serious about his candidacy, race became a quiet subtext to opposition to Gibson. A whisper campaign has evolved within Democratic circles that suggest "he can win a primary but not the general election." This is a coded message for the belief held by many party insiders that Gibson could not win the support of white suburban voters in a November election. It is the Cooper factor, so to speak. No one has the courage to simply speak their mind for fear of revealing their own biases. It would be refreshing to hear Democrats publicly express their opinion that Gibson cannot win a general election because he is black. The fear of a white backlash is a self-fulfilling prophecy. So it is spoken, so it shall be.

Democrats, who publicly champion diversity, but privately protect the status quo, need to be challenged. Lest we be reminded that Fannie Lou Hamer and the Mississippi Freedom Democrats came to this state in 1964 to seek representation in the Democratic Party. Three decades later blacks in Essex County are confronted with similar racist undercurrents. It is time for Democrats to come clean. It is the height of arrogance to expect blacks to wave the party banner in November after being pillaged in June.

The Democratic primary cannot be a repeat of 1994. Party leaders need to step up to the plate; the rejection of a black candidate solely on the basis of race will be the party's worst nightmare. If Ken Gibson is successful in June, it will be incumbent upon party leaders to bring white Democratic voters to their senses. A Gibson candidacy, injured by white flight, will further distance the party from its most loyal constituency. If Democrats think things are bad now, they will be even worse when blacks take a walk.

Part II

A black radical congress

The announcement of a Black Radical Congress to be held in Chicago on June 19-21 represents a rebirth of black militant activism, as we enter a new millennium. Local committees have already been established in New York City, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington, D.C., St. Louis, North Carolina, and in other cities and states. However, we should keep in mind that there is a long heritage of African-American radicalism and resistance to the forces of white racism and corporate domination.

For example, in the 1950's, most mainstream African-American leaders and organizations acquiesced to McCarthyism and the politics of the Cold Way. Black radicals leaders such as the great actor/activist Paul Robeson and W.E.B. Dubois refused to capitulate to right-wing anticommunism. The U.S. government seized their passports and attempted to deny them the right to earn a living. Their books were removed from library shelves. But their voices were never silent.

During the Civil Rights Movement, it was the black radicals who pushed the boundaries of political possibility relentlessly forward. Activist Ella Baker helped to established the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, known as SNCC. Baker admonished youthful activist to foster "group-centered leaders" rather than "leader-centered groups." SNCC and the Congress of Racial Equality involved thousands of radicals and reformers who were willing to go to jail in order to challenge unjust laws. The Mississippi Freedom summer of 1964 registered thousands of black folk who had been denied the right to vote for decades.

In the 1980s, many black radicals were part of the political struggle to elect Harold Washington as Chicago's first black mayor in 1983. Much of the energy of Jessie Jackson's Rainbow Coalition came from black radicals inside the labor movement, women's organizations, and community groups. Black radicals actively participated in the moral and political struggle to topple the evil apartheid regime of Sough Africa.

In recent years, black radicalism has been expressed in the writings of African-American scholars such as Cornel West, Michael Eric Dyson, bell hooks, and many others. At the grass-roots level, in thousands of communities and neighborhoods across the country, black radicalism is expressed in hundreds of protests, marches against police brutality; public protests to improve the quality of our children's education; the fight to for decent and affordable housing and efforts to establish universal healthcare.

The Black Radical Congress in Chicago this summer is only one step toward the long term effort of reversing the reactionary and conservative agendas of both major political parties. We need a new black leadership for the 21st century which is capable of listening to the masses, and fully expressing our discontent with the way things are today.

In its Call announcing the Black Radical Congress, the co-signers declared: "If you believe in the politics of Black liberation, join us in Chicago in 1998 at the Black Radical Congress. If you want to struggle against class exploitation, racism, sexism and homophobia, come to the Congress.

"Sisters and Brothers, we stand at the edge of a new century. The moment for a new militancy and a new commitment to the liberation of all Black people, at home and abroad, has arrived. Let us build a national campaign toward the Black Radical Congress, setting in motion a renewed struggled to reclaim our historic role as the real voice of democracy in this country. Spread the word: 'Without struggle, there is no progress!' Now is the time."

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University.

City News
Heartbeat of the City

☐ $39 CITY NEWS ☐ $19 MINORITY BUSINESS JOURNAL
☐ $10 MINORITY BUSINESS TO BUSINESS DIRECTORY ☐ SEND ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Subscribe to City News/MBJ today and don't miss a beat!

✓ appropriate box to indicate subeription desired.

Name
Address
City State Zip
Home Phone Business Phone

Make check payable and send to: City News, P.O. Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 ●

BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

PLAINFIELD—Basic Business Concepts will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Union County College. For more info, call 908-527-1166.

NEW YORK—The Regional Alliance for Small Contractors is holding a Contractor's Opportunities Clearinghouse from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the World Trade Center. For more info, call 212-435-6506.

NEWARK—"Doing Business in Mexico and Latin America" will be discussed at The Newark Club from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. For more info, call 973-242-6237.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

NEW YORK—The Professional Women in Construction will hold an awards reception at The Roosevelt Hotel beginning at 6 p.m. For more info, call 212-687-0610.

BRIDGEWATER—Telephone Sales: Getting the appointment, an interactive discussion will begin at 7:45 a.m. at Jack O'Connors Quality Beef and Seafood Restaurant. For more info, call 908-725-1552.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

PRINCETON—The first meeting of the newly formed Small Business Committee, formed by the NJBIA, will take place at the Princeton Marriott in the Princeton Forrestal Village from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. for more info call 609-393-7707, ext. 225.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

NEW YORK — "Functioning in an Era of Consolidation - What's Ahead" is the topic that four industry execs will discuss at the Herbert Blueweiss Key Issues Seminar at the Fashion Institute of Technology. For more information, call (212) 217-7820.

NEWARK—The Regional Business Partnership will have their annual museum dinner from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-242-6237.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

WOODBRIDGE—A seminar on "Energy Strategies for the Next Century" will be hosted by NJ Energy Expo at the Sheraton Woodbridge in Woodbridge, NJ. The program runs from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more info, call 908-879-8351.

PLAINFIELD—The Industry and Your Company will be held from [illegible] to 9 p.m. at the Union County College. For more info, call 908-527-1166.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

NORTH BRANCH, NJ — "Creating and Managing Strategic Alliances" is an intensive workshop designed to help the public manage and create strategic alliances in Third World countries. To be held at Raritan Valley Community College's Institute for Business and Professional Development. For more info, call (908) 218-8871.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

NEW YORK—Give your salespeople an unfair advantage with Helen Berman's Regional two-day seminars on "Publication ad sales" at St. Moritz on the Park. For more info, call 1-800-221-4774.

NEWARK—The Regional Business Partnership will hold their annual Real Estate Market Forecast from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at The Newark Club, 22nd Fl.

The value of Black buying power

By James Clingman

To no one's surprise, the latest data on Black buying power in the United States shows that it continues on an upward spiral. Who knows where or when it will taper off? Now at $469 billion, Black buying power and the potential economic strength therein, is at an all-time high. So, will someone tell me why we are still crying broke? Why are we begging others to do for us, when we could be doing for ourselves? Why do we continue to languish in economic never-never land, thinking our problems will be solved if only we are accepted, if only we achieve a "color-blind" society or elect more Black politicians?

With $469 billion, enough money to be one of the largest nations in the world, we are a national and international "basket case." And the reprehensible fact is that we continue to spend as much as 95 percent of that $469 billion with businesses other than our own.

What are our children and grandchildren going to think about our stewardship of their futures? Will they look back and be embarrassed to admit that we were their parents? More importantly, will they be so economically ill-equipped for their futures that sheer survival will be their number one priority? I sincerely hope not.

But hope alone will not take us where we want to go. We must act. Each of us must do what we can to achieve economic empowerment in our families, our communities, and in this country. Sitting around intellectualizing the issue will not do it. Concentrating on social issues will not do it. Focusing solely upon political solutions will not do it. An economic war must be fought with a big economic weapon, our $469 billion.

Doesn't it make sense for Black people to pool their resources and work to help one another just as every other group does? Isn't it smart for us to help ourselves first before we concern ourselves with everyone else's problems? To stop being so "inclusive-minded" with everyone other than our own brothers and sisters? I think you would agree that Black people, with our tremendous economic resources, suffer from a collective psychological malady that makes us maintain the economic status quo in the United States.

We virtually boycott our own businesses; we spend 95 percent of our income with non-Black businesses. And, we continue to believe the Rasputin of all myths: The White man's ice is colder and we allow our children to "brand" themselves with logos and names of White mega-millionaires who hold Black people in disdain. That says a great deal about who we are and where we are headed, that is, if we do not change. We must change the way we do business-NOW.

Economic empowerment is the most important issue facing Black people today. Booker T. Washington warned us in 1912; Marcus Garvey followed his lead, and many more brothers and sisters since then have sounded the alarm. If we fail to heed the messages relating to Black economic empowerment, we will surely seal our economic fate in this country and around the world, and it will not be a pretty picture. Make a commitment to get involved with economic empowerment in the Black community, and follow through on that commitment.

James Clingman is founder and executive director of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce and author of the new book, "Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement - We have a choice."

The key to satisfying customers

WILLIAMSTOWN—In business, we've all been told that satisfied customers make for successful companies. Since promoting customer satisfaction appears to be the holy grail for your business, you begin your crusade. In your quest, you find millions of management consultants out there and volumes of books on the subject, each trying to sell their particular spin on delivering exceptional service.

So why is it that after spending thousands of dollars, working with experienced consultants, revamping policies and procedures, and retraining staff- all with perceived customer expectation as the guide-the customers still aren't satisfied? What makes satisfied customers such an elusive goal?

Suzanne Baldino Jones and Mark Heisler, partners of The Competitive Business Strategy Group in Williamstown, NJ, say that the most common "organizational sins" were committed when seeking to implement a new customer service plan:

* Missing the mark. Rushing to implementation without having a thorough knowledge of what the customer wants or needs is time and money wasted. Your plan needs to aim for your customers if you expect to hit the bullseye.

* Missing the point. Effective customer service is not simply being polite to customers. It is delivering tangible services that are considered valuable by the customers.

* Missing the link. Customer service is considered peripheral to the company's core business. Often there is no real link between service and the rest of the company.

* Missing the focus. Companies suffer from an unconscious tendency to evolve structures and systems that serve the internal convenience of those who work with them, rather than the convenience of the customers affected by them. Systems and procedures that impact customers are never addressed, leaving the customer's satisfaction to chance.

* Missing the scope. Often, service training is provided only to front line staff. The rest of the organization is rarely given the tools to understand and service customer needs, even though that's their job.

If your organization committed any of these transgressions, redemption close at hand! Jones advises to just remember SERVICE:

* Study your customers. Develop processes to identify what the customers really want and need.

* Educate everyone to understand and accept where the customers fit-customers the business. The work each employee performs impacts customers in tangible ways.

* Respond to customers by providing the tools and information to all employees to make it easy for them to practice exceptional service.

* Value, as defined by customers, is key. Realign strategic direction to introduce products and services that provide tangible value to customers.

* Integrate service into all functional area business plans and "wrap" service around everything the company does.

* Champion the cause by identifying key influencers to advocate service that transforms the company into an exceptional service provider.

* Externally focus systems and procedures on customers and eliminate internal procedures and systems that do not create value.

100 Black Men speak on mayor's report

ATLANTA—The following is the statement from Thomas W. Dortch, Jr., President of 100 Black Men of America, Inc., the statement comes after the release of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Report showing a vast disproportion in city and suburban homeownership.

The recent release of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Report, regarding the gap between city and suburban homeownership, is a blatant sign that segregation still divides America.

It is shameful that in 1998 a family living in America still cannot pursue the American dream, not because of finances but because of the color of their skin. This is an outrage! Measures to stop this illegal form of racism must come to a swift and final end.

If urban redlining is allowed to continue, the gap between city and suburban life will continue to grow. We will never achieve the equality and cohesiveness that leaders and crusaders in the past and present have fought to accomplish. The institutions that are responsible for this division, which keep minorities from achieving the security of homeownership and that practice these discriminatory urban redlining procedures, must be held accountable for their actions.

Honors for Elizabeth's Top Ranked UEZ

ELIZABETH—The city's Urban Enterprise Zone program, which is administered by the Elizabeth Development Company (EDC), was ranked number one out of 3,000 eligible zone program participants from 40 states in capturing the 1998 Community Empowerment Award, which recognizes States' and communities that have achieved excellence in improving the economic well-being of targeted areas.

Elizabeth's UEZ expects to add 5,000 new jobs with the development of a 1.5 million square foot New Jersey Gardens MetroMall at Turnpike Exit 13A. The MetroMall is relying on the reduced sales tax benefit in part to fund its infrastructure costs.

Send your religious news to:

Religous News
%City News
PO Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Read
"The New Journal of Civilization"
subscribe to
CITY NEWS
for information call
(908) 754-3400

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

HAWKS MEDIA GROUP, INC.
Now Available
Wedding Videos
DESKTOP PUBLISHING • ADVERTISING • COMMERCIALS
PHOTOGRAPHY · VIDEO PRODUCTION
Ask about special introductory prices.
PO BOX 272, CRANFORD, NJ 07016 908-709-8947

Watkins
Quality products Since 1868
* Spices * Extracts *Health *Laundry

EXCEPTIONAL INCOME OPPORTUNITY
OWN YOUR OWN HOME-BASED BUSINESS
LESS THAN $35. TO START
Call Independent Marketing Representative
for Free Information 201-674-0312

Serving Your Community
Insurance and Financial Services
Kevin Browne
1806 Rt. 35, Oakhurst NJ 07755
Tel 732-663-0722, ext. 436
Fax 732-663-[illegible]130
A Division of The Prudential Company
Prudential
©1997 The Prudential Insurance Company of America • 751 Broad Street • Newark, NJ 07102-3777

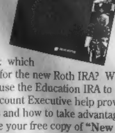
A & S
AUTO DETAILING
•Waxing
•Buffing
•Simonizing
•Shampooing
•Steam – cleaning
•Engines
Pager: 908-569-8787 At Love Office: 908-754-5454

Subscribe to the # 1 Black newspaper in New Jersey
CITY NEWS
To Subscribe call 908-754-3400 or send to CITY NEWS
Subscriptions
144 North Ave. Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Blacks respond to targeted financial services

According to a report by Packaged Facts, black people are highly receptive to financial services that are marketed to them. Example: Deluxe Corporation, by creating a check series commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, exceeded their market projections by 15%.*

***Packaged Facts is a product of FIND/SVP Research Publications Group**



To Make The Most Of Today's Tremendous IRA Opportunities, Who Do You Turn To?

Dean Witter. Your resource for understanding the new IRAs.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 significantly enhanced existing IRAs and created two new IRAs, the "tax-free" Roth IRA and the Education IRA. Now IRAs can be used to save for higher education and even a first home as well as retirement.

Today's IRAs pose critical choices for you: which type of IRA is right for me? Am I eligible for the new Roth IRA? What do I do with my existing IRA? How can I use the Education IRA to meet college costs? Let a Dean Witter Account Executive help provide the answers you need about the new IRAs and how to take advantage of them. Call the number below to receive your free copy of **"New legislation, New opportunities ... The Dean Witter Individual Retirement Accounts."**

Vernon L. Trotter
Account Executive Investments
Retirement Planning Specialist
(800) [illegible]59-6665

DEAN WITTER

© 19[illegible] Dean Witter Reynolds Inc. Member SIPC

Dean Witter
Attn: Vernon L. Trotter
695 Route 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07004
☐ Please send me a free copy of **"New Legislation, New Opportunities... The Dean Witter Individual Retirement Account."**

Name ______
Address ______
City ______ State ______ Zip ______
( ) ______ ( ) ______
Business Phone Home Phone

If You Can't Make Head Or Tail Of The New Taxpayer Relief Act...

PEANUTS © United Feature Syndicate, Inc

...Call MetLife

The new "tax-free" Roth IRA opens up new possibilities in planning for your retirement, but there are restrictions you should learn more about.

The main appeal of the Roth IRA is the possibility of receiving tax-free earnings, and the ability to convert traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs in 1998 under special income inclusion rules. While there may be real opportunities, this new federal tax law adds to the complexity of planning for your financial future.

Fortunately, MetLife can help you make sense of it all. By walking you through the complications and pointing out ways you can update your investment portfolio and retirement plans.

Get MetLife's newest free Life Advice brochure, *Your Planning Opportunities Under The 1997 Tax Law.* It gives you an overview in language you can understand. Simply contact me at:

Peter Nejad, General Manager
100 Franklin Square Drive Suite 200
Somerset NJ, 08873
1-800-304-6453 Ex.171
Or visit our website at www.metlife.com.

MetLife
GET MET. IT PAYS.
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York, NY
97122936-MLIC-LD

Announcing **two** great opportunities to reach the African-American Business & Professional Community through the
Minority Business Journal
of New Jersey and New York

1 MBJ March:
Financing your business Part I
SBA Special Section
- Profiles of SBA clients
- Profiles of SBA top lenders
- Who's lending to minority businesses
- Applying for an SBA loan
- What lenders look for

MBJ April: 2
Financing your business Part II
and
Black Investment Month
Profiles on:
- New Jersey Economic Development Authority
- New Jersey Development Authority
- Casino Reinvestment Authority
- New Jersey Reinvestment Authority

- Setting up an investment club
- Investing through your bank
- The basics of investing
- Stocks, bonds, mutual funds: getting the best mix

Space reservation by: March 6, 1998
Ad by: March 16, 1998

Ask about our 2-issue discount

Call (908) 754-3400 for more information
Don't miss your opportunity to inform minority businesses and professionals about your financial services

Religion Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

UNION CITY—The Passion Play will be performed at 2 p.m. at the Park Performing Arts Center. For more info, call 201-865-6980.

WASHINGTON, DC—ONE, Organization for a New Equality, will present the Medal of Hope Award to Mr. Eugene Ludwig at a dinner at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. For more info, call 202-216-0750.

BROOKLYN—Spirit-Filled Experimental Institute at St. Paul Community Baptist Church through March 23rd. For more info, call 718-257-1300, ext. 137.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

MAHWAH—Steven Emerson will speak at Ramapo College of N.J. in the Alumni Lounge at 7 p.m. His topic, "The 'Rushdie Rules': Militant Islam and Free Speech," is a critical look at how militant Islam has affected the practice of free speech in the West.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

PLAINFIELD—Voices of Praise presents "Joy Night" featuring guest speaker, Pastor Donald Skruggs of the Agape Love Fellowship Church and musical guest: Omni Presence 7 p.m. at the Rose of Sharon Community Church. For more info, call 732-594-1452.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

DUNELLEN—The Dunellen United Methodist Church is seeking crafters for its 15th Annual Spring Fling Craft show. For more info, call 908-769-9294.

'A Platform for Children'

A public meeting intended to serve as a guide for elected officials in Essex County as they develop county and municipal programs and spending priorities will be held on Thursday, March 26 at First Hopewell Baptist Church, 525 Orange Street, in Newark.

Preparation for the meeting, titled "A Platform for Children" took place earlier this month when 30 churches met to discuss the needs of children in the Essex County area. Also on hand were a panel of experts including Carolyn Wallace, International Youth Organization and Margaret Woods, Independence High School. The panelists urged ministers to become more involved in civic affairs and existing program while advocating more support for children.

A tribute to a military professional and mentor: *Colonel Albert C. Johnson*

By Lieutenant Colonel Avery W. Grant, US Army Signal Corps, retired

Colonel Albert C. Johnson

Colonel Albert C. Johnson, US Army Signal Corps, retired, of West Long Branch, died recently and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, with full military honors on Tuesday, February 17, 1998

He lived in Long Branch for many years and his wife, Norma, is a retired Long Branch Pubic School System Special Education teacher. Colonel Johnson retired in 1972, while stationed at Fort Monmouth, after 30 years of active military service.

He was a veteran of World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War. He served several tours at Fort Monmouth, and was among the first black officers to integrate Army units as a result of President Truman's Executive Order to end segregation in the military. He was also the first black to be promoted to the rank of Colonel in the US Army Signal Corps. He was awarded two Legions of Merit, two Bronze Stars, an air Medal and many other awards.

Colonel Johnson is considered as the Black Father of the Signal Corps, by the black Signal officers of my day. In reality, he is the modern day Father of the Signal Corps, because of his three tours at the US Army Signal School and his distinguished professional career he greatly enhanced the professionalism and credibility of all Signal Corps officers.

A week before he died, I received a call from retired Lieutenant Colonel Holman Edmond in Atlanta, he had heard that Colonel Johnson was gravely ill and wanted to know of his condition. I told him that Mrs. Johnson had asked that he not be visited. Ed said, "Avery, you must tell her that we recognize her as his loving and faithful wife, but that he belongs to all of us."

Lieutenant Colonel Edmond said to me in his phone call "Let me know how Colonel Johnson is doing, and I will get a cheap flight up to see him." Although he jokingly emphasized the word "cheap". Edmond is a retired Signal Corps officer and a retired Southern Bell Telephone executive. Money was not the issue—it is a deep endearing gratitude for Colonel Johnson.

But back to Colonel Johnson being the Black Father of the Signal Corps. In 1963, LTC Edmond and I attended the Advanced Signal Officers Course at the Signal School. This was a time when every class had only two black officers. Office of Personnel Management, Pentagon, appeared to be assigning black officers, alphabetically. Edmond and Grant in our class, and Lemuel Harris and Jim Harrison in the next class. We remember fondly the social evenings that Colonel Johnson had for the four or five black officers in his home on Joline Avenue in Long Branch. All of us have been quite successful, because Colonel Johnson cared—that is the greatest epitaph!

In 1966, Colonel and Mrs. Johnson attended the Annual Signal Corps Ball in Heidleberg, Germany. Colonel Johnson was the 44th Signal Battalion commander, and I was the Headquarters Commandant for STRATCOM-EUROPE. After the ball I invited some to my quarters, and mentioned the social gatherings that Colonel Johnson was having in Germany, and where ever he went he opened his home, because he recognized that black officers had few mentors. He was particularly loyal to his fraternity brothers.

There are many, many other of Colonel Johnson's deeds that many could relate. In 1986, Colonel Johnson, and Colonel Joseph Rankin (the other "Black Father" of Signal) were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Signal Corps and the Army at the Black History Month observance at Fort Monmouth.

The Pastor's Word

By Reverend Reginald T. Jackson

Parents must take role in their children's education

The one thing any good parent wants is for their children to do better than themselves. This is not possible without a good education. Yet, particularly in urban areas, parental participation is extremely low. In some schools it is almost non-existent. At Open House, Parent-Teacher and PTA meetings, hardly any parents show up. It would seem that they don't care about the education of their children.

I emphasize seem.

There are a number of reasons for this. Many parents work two jobs to make ends meet. Many families are headed by a single parent. Many single mothers are very young themselves and don't know how to be good homemakers or raise their children. Unfortunately, some parents are involved in substance abuse and parenting doesn't matter to them. There are a host of reasons why parents aren't involved in their children education, but none of them are good enough. The education of children is so important that the state must take steps to make it mandatory for parents to be involved in their children's education. I am not sure what would, or would not, pass constitutional muster but some requirements should in place.

Perhaps it could be that parents are required to attend at least two teacher-parent conferences a year or the child is not promoted to the next grade. I know this sounds like the child is being punished, but without parental involvement the child is being punished anyway. But if parents attend at least two parent-teacher conferences, one in the beginning and one in the middle of the year, it will be a beginning.

Ultimately, parents cannot be forced to take an interest in their children's education, they have to love their children enough to want to.

There are things the school can do to help parents be more involved. Principals can begin to visit the neighborhoods, knock on doors and visit homes to get to know parents and talk about the importance of their child's education. Get to know the neighborhood and the people and develop a bond. Teachers can also visit or call parents in the evening and keep them informed about their children and ask that they encourage them.

Churches and ministers can also make a difference and play tremendous role in helping parents to become involved. Ministers from the pulpits can announce and urge parents to attend Open House at schools, PTO meetings and other activities related to school.

Ministers can also help by asking for and reviewing their young people's report cards, and getting them help in area that are needed with tutors in the church family. Also they can have young people read a book, do a book report and turn it into them.

Parent are crucial to the education of their children, and we must do whatever it takes to get them involved. Schools, ministers and churches must also "stand in the gap." All of us have no choice—the consequences are too high.

Long Branch church observes Black History

By Avery Grant

LONG BRANCH—A presentation at St. Luke's United Methodist Church observed Black History Month featuring a guest speaker with a Jewish connection.

The speaker, Pauline Drake, is a member of Providence Baptist Church in Cliffwood. She said that wanting to more fully understand God's word led her to study Hebrew at a synagogue in Matawan. Subsequently, she became the first black person to be President of the Matawan/Aberdeen Hadassah, after serving on various state and local committees of the Jewish organization. Hadassah is a charitable organization with branches around the world. She has also made five trips to Israel. "I teach basic Hebrew at Brookdale Community College, and I'm a board member of the Holocaust Center at the college," Drake said. She said the language, the trips and experiences have definitely greatly enligthened her sprituality.

Drake has other firsts also, she was the first black elected as State President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and she is currently the State President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Military Order of the Cooties of the VFW.

The presentation also included a medley of spirituals sung by Elizabeth Riley and Hazell Kennedy accompanied by pianist, E. Tonya Greenwood, all members of the Second Baptist Church.

Rev. Hampton Williamson, pastor, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, presents a Church Centennial Plate to Pauline Drake, guest speaker for the Black History Sunday Service.

Ski adventure

Continued from page one

tried some major ski mountains, she and Annie decided to stick together in the lessons offered by instructor Ray Fitch.

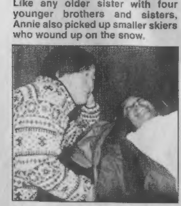
After a full and successful day Saturday, with Annie declaring she wants to get her four brothers and sisters, her Mom and Dad on skis, a young snowboarder ended Annie's lesson at midday Sunday. Taken to the Ski Patrol office to check out a bruise, Annie insisted on keeping her ski boots on, so she could get back out on the snow.

Acquiescing to medical advice, Annie didn't put her skis back on that day, but she announced her resolve to get back on the boards at the first possible opportunity.

Fitch told her she picked up skiing very quickly and seems capable of advancing readily. Meredith has already honed her ski skills at Vail and Taos out West, Stratton, and Sugarloaf/USA and Scotch Valley in the East.

After lunch Saturday, Annie practiced her newfound ability to stand, slide and turn on the Sun Bowl learner's area as others rode the lift over her head.

Like any novice, or any skier for that matter, Annie took a few spills. Like any older sister with four younger brothers and sisters, Annie also picked up smaller skiers who wound up on the snow.



Annie didn't lose any of her enthusiasm for skiing even though she was hit from behind by a 13-year-old snowboarder .

From left, Meredith and Annie warm up with their Instructor Ray Fitch, an Alaskan who lives in Easton, Pa., and teaches at Camelback when he's not working as a computer programmer.

Feel right at home with The Best.

Guaranteed rate • No lock-in fees • No points
Borrow to $227,150 with as little as 5% down

30 Year Fixed Rate Loan	10/1 ARM 30 Year Term	5/1 ARM 30 Year Term	3/1 ARM 30 Year Term
Rate 7.375%	Rate 7.000%	Rate 6.750%	Rate 6.375%
APR 7.375%	APR 7.280%	APR 7.410%	APR 7.470%
Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.91	Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.65	Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.49	Monthly P&I Per $1,000 $6.24
	Converts to 1-year ARM in 10 years, after which rate may increase or decrease annually.	Converts to 1-Year ARM in 5 years, after which rate may increase or decrease annually.	Converts to 1-Year ARM in 3 years, after which rate may increase or decrease annually.

Rates and APR (Annual Percentage Rate) as of 3/13/98 are for one- to four-family owner-occupied homes and are subject to change without notice. A 20% down payment is required on loans to $500,000; for loans over $500,000, a 25% down payment is required; maximum loan amount, $1,000,000. Down payments of less than 20% will be accepted with private mortgage insurance on loans to a maximum of $227,150. P & I represents principal and interest payments on the loan.

Other mortgage plans for purchase or refinance are also available.
For an application, visit the Investors' branch nearest you or call:
1-800-252-8119

Borrow from the best!

INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK

CORPORATE OFFICE: 249 Millburn Avenue, Millburn

CHATHAM: 169 Main Street*
CLARK: 56 Westfield Avenue* Bradlees Shopping Center*
COLTS NECK: Highway 34, P.O. Box 127
DEAL: 88 Norwood Avenue, P.O. Box 227
EAST ORANGE: 27 Prospect Street
EDISON: 1655-65 Oak Tree Road*
FREEHOLD: Highway 9 and Adelphia Road*
HILLSIDE: 1128 Liberty Avenue*
IRVINGTON: 34 Union Avenue 1331 Springfield Avenue 1065 Stuyvesant Avenue
LIVINGSTON: 493 South Livingston Avenue* 371 East Northfield Road*
LONG BRANCH: 169 Broadway
MADISON: 16 Waverly Place*
MILLBURN: 243 Millburn Avenue*
NAVESINK: Highway 36 and Valley Drive*
PLAINFIELD: 130 Watchung Avenue*
SCOTCH PLAINS: 437 Park Avenue*
SPRINGFIELD: 173 Mountain Avenue Mountain and Morris Avenues*
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS: Highway 71 and Warren Avenue
TOMS RIVER: 874 Fischer Blvd., Bay Plaza* (Shop Rite Center)
UNION: 977-979 Stuyvesant Avenue Rickel Shopping Center, Route 22*

*Investors' 24-Hour ATM Location

Deposits FDIC insured to $100,000

HEARTBEAT

Your guide to healthy living

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

TEANECK—A free program, "Understanding Diabetes and Eye Care: The Facts About Diabetic Retinopathy" in the hospital's Marian Hall. For more info, call 201-837-1850.

PLAINFIELD—Local Mayors proclaim March American Red Cross "Family Safety Month". The Red Cross collects blood for your hospitals, assist military families and help prevent and respond to emergencies. Send a gift today to help your community. For more info, call 908-756-6414.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

NEW BRUNSWICK—A four-week course on Stress Management for Health and Happiness will be held at 7 p.m. at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's Director Center for Stress Management. For more info, call 732-828-3000.

BERKELEY HEIGHTS—The next Caregiver/Alzheimer Support Group of RUNNELLS Specialized Hospital of Union County will meet from 1 to 2 p.m., in the Family Conference Room of the facility. For more info, call 908-771-5835.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

SOMERSET—"Kids Count" program will be held at the Somerset Marriott, and will feature discussions, forums and other activities for IBD - Inflammatory Bowel Disease, children and their families. For more info, call 732-656-1244.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

NEW BRUNSWICK—A Family with Manic Depression Support Group will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's auditorium. For more info, call 732-937-8820.

CHERRY HILL—The Arthritis Foundation, NJ Chapter will send a special message from the Easter Bunny to children whose families make a $5.00 contribution to help people with arthritis. For more info, call 609-482-0600.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

PLAINFIELD—Dr. Tobey Marx, will speak about ways to improve memory at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Citizens Service Center. The Center is fully wheelchair accessible. For transportation, call 973-753-3506.

Rainbow Gala Announces 1998 Honorees

SOMERSET—The Reverend Dr. Deforest "Buster" Soaries, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens and an internationally renowned speaker and author, and Lincoln Gardens and an internationally renowned speaker and author, and Latina Magazine, the preeminent magazine for Hispanic women, are this year's honorees for the 1998 Rainbow Gala, to be held on March 21st at the Brunswick Hilton and Towers in East Brunswick. The gala, hosted by the Cultural Diversity and Outreach Committee of the American Diabetes Association (ADA), New Jersey Affiliate, will raise funds to expand the scope of the cultural diversity and outreach efforts of the ADA.

The committee was established in 1987 to reduce the incidence and impact of diabetes in the African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American and minority communities at large.

"In Reverend Soaries and Latina Magazine we have a person and a publication with a powerful influence on the African American and Hispanic communities and society as a whole," said events co-chair Douglas Young, Ph.D., also medical director , Metabolism, at Bristol Myers-Squibb. "Our honoring them underscores the impact they've had on helping people lead better lives and achieve their dreams.

This year's honorees will contribute to the best-attended event in its three-year history, said event co-chair Carol Laws-Krause, RN C.D.E. Diabetes Support Specialist with Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals. Reverend Soaries has expanded his role as the senior pastor of one of the fastest growing African American churches on the East Coast. Under his direction, First Baptist has started construction on a new $10 million church complex, part of a multi-faceted revitalization in the New Brunswick-Somerset area. He has also helped develop a number of economic, spiritual and educational programs for church members and local residents.

In 1997, he addressed the call for volunteerism and saving the nation's at-risk youth at the President's Summit for America's Future in Philadelphia. He is the host of NJN's special television program, "Straight Up with Buster Soaries" which focuses on helping teens find solutions to today's problems. He is a nationally syndicated columnist and a sought after speaker.

Latina Magazine, launched in May 1996 by current publisher Christy Haubegger, is one of the magazine industry's surprise success stories-there simply hadn't been a major bilingual lifestyle magazine for Latino women before its launch.

Black survivors of Prostate Cancer speak out

By Avery Grant

WEST LONG BRANCH—Three black survivors of prostate cancer discussed the illness and the effect it had on their lives at the Health Concerns for African American Men seminar held recently at Monmouth University.

Seventy-three-year old Bentley Odom, Sr. of Long Branch, had prostate surgery about seven years ago. Today he leads an active life: "I walk four miles a day, and my life is pretty normal," he said. "You know it the macho in black men that tell that life is over if they get it, but that's not true."

Literature provided by the American Cancer Society states that most cases of prostate cancer occur in men older than 50, and more than 80 percent of these cases are in men over 65. African-American men have the highest incidence of prostate cancer in the world. Their death rate is twice that of white men.

Prostrate cancer can be detected in its early stages with two simple tests, the Prostrate-Specific Antigen (PSA) blood test, and a digital rectal examination (DRE). The American Cancer Society recommends that men talk to their doctor about taking these screening tests, annually starting at age 50. For high risks groups, like African-American males, they should consider screening tests at an earlier age.

"I have four boys and I am going to start working on them to take the tests early," said Odom, "They save lives. I also stress belief in God, and belief in your doctor—but always get a second opinion. It's also important to try and avoid unnecessary stress."

Cleveland Alexander, Long Branch, commenting about the importance of family during his talk. "I am glad to see you wives come out," he said. I had my operation on November 2, 1992, but when my PSA test came out high, my doctor asked me to bring my wife to my next appointment, because she and my family need to know about it and be a part of the process." He also recommended getting a second opinion, partly because there are some doctors that just want to "cut" on you.

Prostate cancer can be treated with surgery, radiation or hormone treatments. Doctors may even recommend a "watch and wait", particularly with older patients who have early prostrate cancer that is confined to one area of the prostate and is not causing any symptoms or other problems.

American Cancer Society recommends that men see a doctor if they notice any urinary problems, if they are urinating frequently, or if there is blood in the urine. In its early stages there is usually no pain. In many cases it may be a non-cancerous enlarged prostate or infection. If the PSA test and DRE indicate, the doctor will take a transrectal ultrasound or a biopsy for further evaluation.

"Very seldom will a doctor tell you that there is an alternative procedure, so get a second opinion," urge Marc Gordon, Neptune, "Be concerned, but not overwrought. I urge you to be defensive, get the PSA test and the DRE when it is time, It can save your life." He also urged that you ask your doctor about all side effects of prescribed drugs, some can almost be fatal. Gordon suggests that anyone who has questions or concerns to attend meetings of their support group, "US TOO". For more information, call Judy Kiefer, Jersey Shore Medical Center, 732-776-4240.

Puzzling risk factor for Alzheimer's found in blacks

By Paul A. Driscoll, Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO (AP)—Blacks and Hispanics have a puzzling, additional risk factor that makes them much more susceptible than whites to Alzheimer's disease, researchers say.

It's been known since 1992 that people with a certain gene have a greatly elevated risk for developing the disease.

Now, researchers say that even without that suspect gene, blacks and Hispanics are at much greater risk than whites for Alzheimer's.

"We think it's another biological factor, another gene or genes that account for this," said Dr. Richard Mayeux, a neurologist at Columbia University and one of the researchers in the study published in Wednesday's edition of The Journal of the American Medical Association.

About 25 percent of the total population has the apolipoprotein E-4 gene, or apo E-4, which is known to be closely associated with the disease, although its exact role remains unknown.

The survey of 1,079 elderly men and women found that blacks who lack the gene are four times more likely to get the disease than whites. The risk to Hispanics is double that of whites. In both cases, the influence of age, gender, education, hypertension and family history of dementia was ruled out.

About 10 percent of the white population lacking the gene would be expected to get the disease, Mayeux said.

Blacks and Hispanics already were known to have higher rates of developing the disease, although the exact numbers are not firm and have been disputed, he said.

Other researchers not associated with the study said the results suggest that "being an African-American may be one of the strongest risk factors for AD yet observed."

The results are "provocative and exciting," because they suggest new approaches to fully understanding the causes of the disease, Walter A. Kukull and Dr. George M. Martin wrote in an editorial accompanying the research. Kukull and Martin are associated with the Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at the University of Washington in Seattle.

An estimated 4 million Americans have Alzheimer's and 100,000 die of it every year.

The 1,079 subjects of the survey were Medicare recipients living in New York City. At the start of the study, none was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. During follow-up exams, symptoms of the disease developed in 221 people.

With the apo E-4 gene, the rate of Alzheimer's disease was about 30 percent across racial and ethnic lines, said Mayeux.

"The surprise came in people without the gene," Mayeux said.

The researchers who did the survey, led by Ming-Xin Tang of Columbia University, said the next step is to zero in on what causes the elevated risk in blacks and Hispanics.

Kidney disease is special problem for African Americans

NEW YORK—Did you know that kidney disease strikes African Americans six times more often than white Americans? Due to their significantly higher rates of high blood pressure, diabetes and glomerulonephritis, African Americans have a much higher risk of developing end stage kidney disease, which necessitates regular dialysis or a kidney transplant to maintain life.

Nearly 4,500 people are presently awaiting kidney transplants in New York and New Jersey alone. 'That is why it is extremely important for African Americans to have an increased awareness of the early warning signs of kidney disease and to see their doctors regularly for check-ups," said Dr. Ira Greifer, President of the National Kidney Foundation of New York and New Jersey.

Many people don't realize how important the kidneys are to their health. In addition to filtering wastes from the blood, the kidneys produce a hormone that helps your body make red blood cells in order to prevent anemia or a low blood count, produce hormones, that help regulate blood pressure, and keep your bones strong by making an activated form of Vitamin D. People often think that as long as they are making urine, their kidneys are functioning okay. This can be very far from the truth. In fact, urinating more than usual, especially at night, is one of the most common symptoms of kidney disease.

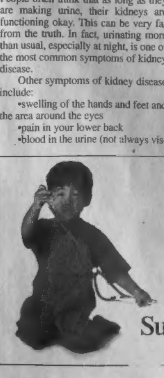
Other symptoms of kidney disease include:

- swelling of the hands and feet and the area around the eyes
- pain in your lower back
- blood in the urine (not always visible to the human eye)
- pain or burning when you urinate
- high blood pressure

Two simple blood tests called blood-urea-nitrogen (BUN) and serum creatinine level can help determine if your kidneys are functioning normally. These tests measure levels in your blood of waste substances that are normally eliminated from your body by the kidneys. When your kidneys are not functioning as well as they should, these wastes begin to build up in your blood. A simple urine test checking for abnormal protein levels can help catch this disease early on, even before it can be detected in the blood.

When high blood pressure and diabetes are detected and controlled early, serious complications can often be avoided. Some evidence also suggests that these diseases may be preventable in some cases. By eating a healthy diet, staying trim and exercising regularly, individuals may be able to decrease their risk of developing high blood pressure and diabetes. Since a higher proportion of African Americans than white Americans are sensitive to large amounts of salt in their diet, keeping salt intake down may help them to control existing high blood pressure and may even play a role in prevention.

During March, the National Kidney Foundation of NY/ NJ urges everyone to learn more about their kidneys and to get regular check-ups that include tests for blood pressure, blood sugar, urine protein and kidney function. For more information about the kidneys and kidney disease, please call the National Kidney Foundation of New York and New Jersey at: 212-629-9770.



American Heart Association℠
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

Research gave him a future

Support Research

©1995 American Heart Association

Preventive treatment for common virus

MOUNTAINSIDE—Davaughnte Jordan, 22 months, of Trenton, checks out the machine that administers Respigam™ directly into his bloodstream at Children's Specialized Hospital (CSH) in Mountainside. Respigam™ is a preventive treatment for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), one of the most common respiratory viruses. Dr. Sharon Burke, Director of the Chronic Illness Program at Children's Specialized Hospital in Mountainside, administers Respigam™ at CSH once a month during the flu season to Davaughnte and other children with chronic lung conditions to help prevent RSV infection which can be life threatening for children at risk.

Need for African American Marrow Donors is great

MINNEAPOLIS—Willis Webb is committed to saving lives. As the first chairperson of the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) African Americans Uniting For Life Campaign at Lifeblood in Memphis, his mission is to spread the word about the urgent need for African American volunteer marrow donors.

Little did he know that he would have the opportunity to extend that commitment. In 1996,four years after he joined the NMDP Registry as a volunteer marrow donor, Webb was notified he was a match for a two-year-old boy in need of a marrow transplant. He realized he was the only person who could give this child a second chance at life.

"When I found out that the transplant would be delayed for two months due to an infection in the child, I began praying more, now that another life depends on me," Webb said. Thanks to Webb, the child is doing well today and leading a healthy life.

Because the characteristics that determine marrow are inherited in the same way as hair or eye color, a patient's best possible match is another family member. Some characteristics of marrow type are unique to people of specific ancestry. Although it is possible for an African American patient to match a donor from any racial or ethnic group, the most likely match is an African American. More African American volunteer marrow donors are needed, so others can have a second chance at life.

You can help by joining the NMDP Registry. For more information about becoming a marrow donor, call the NMDP at 1-800-MARROW-2 or visit the NMDP on the Internet at www.marrow.org.

Talk about an IRA-and-a-half...

troducing the IRA with a .50% yield bonus!
th Broad National Bank's exclusive IRA offer, the relaxed gibility limits for existing IRA's, and the tax-free advantages he new Roth IRA's, the time has never been better to plan your future financial freedom.

5.50% APY REGULAR 18 MONTH CD RATE + .50% APY IRA BONUS = 6.00% APY 18 MONTH IRA $500 MINIMUM DEPOSIT

IGHER RATES AVAILABLE FOR LONGER TERMS
ddition to guaranteed high earnings, complete safety, and vestment flexibility, BNB IRA's offer you a full .50% yield bonus n all of our IRA CD accounts. Just open a new BNB IRA account or a term of 18 months or longer, and we'll add a full one-half ercent to our prevailing corresponding regular CD rate.

he IRA with a .50% bonus...only at Broad National Bank.
or complete details, visit your nearest office or call
973) 639-2990 today.

nnual Percentage Yield shown available as of date of publication and subject to change. Rate in ffect when you open your account is guaranteed for the entire term. No other rate bonus programs pply to this offer. CD deposits must remain until maturity or a penalty will apply.

BNB
BROAD NATIONAL BANK
We speak your language

15 OFFICES SERVING ESSEX, BERGEN, UNION, HUDSON & MIDDLESEX COUNTIES
NEWARK: 905 Broad St., Chestnut St. & Wheeler Point Rd.,
133 Jackson St., 290 Ferry St., 466 Bloomfield Ave., 745 Broad St.
plus ATM services at Gateway and at the Continental Airlines concourses at Newark Airport's Terminal C
EAST ORANGE: 554 Central Ave. • ELIZABETH: 826 Elizabeth Ave., 1000 S. Elmora Ave.
KEARNY: 180 Schuyler Ave. • LIVINGSTON: 30 W. Mount Pleasant Ave.
MILLBURN: 225 Millburn Ave. • NO. ARLINGTON: 65 River Rd.
PERTH AMBOY: Convery Plaza, Rt. 35
Visit our Internet site at http://www.broad-national-bank.com

Equal Opportunity Lender
Equal Housing Lender
CBA
Member FDIC

Artz Wednesday

BillBoard

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

CRANFORD—Police artist, Vincent Gagliardi will lead a workshop at the 1998 Union County Teen Arts Festival at Union County College from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. through the 19th. For more info, call 908-558-2550.

WAYNE—"Innovation: Drawing as an Ongoing Process," a collegiate exhibition of drawing curated by James Andrew Brown, will be on display in the Ben Shahn Galleries through April 17th. For more info, call 973-720-3278.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

NEW BRUNSWICK—NJ Symphony Orchestra presents "Bravo Broadway". This program will include tunes from some of Broadway's most beloved musicals. The performance will take place at 8 p.m., at the State Theatre. For more info, call 1-800-255-3476.

WAYNE—Paintings by Paula Elliott will be on display at Ben Shahn Galleries through April 17th. For more info, call 973-720-2654.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

NEWARK—"When a Diva Dreams," by Garry Garrison will be performed at the African Globe Theatre at Newark Symphony Hall at 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-624-1584.

SCOTCH PLAINS—The annual Tricky Tray Auction sponsored by the Parents Guild of Union Catholic High School, with doors opening at 6 p.m. This year's theme, "Night on Broadway" provides a wide variety of individual table themes. For more info, call 908-889-1600.

NEWARK—Tuliva-Donna Cumberbatch will perform at The Priory Restaurant in their Friday night jazz series beginning at 7 p.m. For more info, call 973-639-7848.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

HEMPSTEAD—The Rhoda Pinsley Levin Memorial Concert, featuring pianist Laura O'Alessio who will perform at 8 p.m. in the Monroe Hall Lecture Center, South Campus. For more info, call 516-463-5490.

NEW YORK—Catch the musical magic of trumpeter Jon Faddis when he brings The Jon Faddis Quintet to Birdland through March 21st. Set times are 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. For more info, call 212-581-3080.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

JERSEY CITY—Rhythm and Blues new paintings by Cheryl Gross and Teri Richardson through April 17th at the Cooper Gallery. For more info, call 201-451-1074.

NYU report makes recommendations to African-Americans in film

NEW YORK—"Black" and Urban films account for over $200 million or 3 1/2-5 percent of the annual domestic box office on only 13-16 releases per year. This performance outdistances the highly-touted Independent film genre which typically accounts for 4-6 percentof the domestic box office on 2-3 times as many releases.

In addition, soundtracks for no fewer than ten of the twenty-six Black and Urban films released in 1995 and 1996 went gold or better, generating substantial ancillary benefits for record companies and film distributors. Furthermore, given that Black consumers spend almost $2 billion on entertainment and leisure annually and approximately $300 billion per year on all products and services, there is tremendous room for growth in other ancillary revenues for filmmakers and entrepreneurs who take the initiative in seeking out cross-promotional partners.

These are just two findings informing the analysis and recommendations of the 80-page NYU Black Film Report. The report, produced by the Innovation Initiative of New York University School of Law, is the first publication to critically examine the position of African-Americans in film from a business standpoint.

The group's director, Yaphet Smith, a student at the NYU School of Law, noted that "filmmakers and professionals have shown remarkable dedication and resourcefulness in bringing films to life. In light of those efforts and continued debates about the position of African-Americans in film, we felt it was time for a methodical, intensive examination of ways in which Black people can achieve a sustained, rewarding presence in the film industry."

Black Film Trade Association: African-American filmmakers and professionals should establish a trade organization to represent the interests of Black filmmakers, executives and audiences. An advocacy group is increasingly important as decision making becomes more complex in the global, high-tech world of visual entertainment. Potential trade initiatives may include serving as a clearinghouse for market data, developing relationships with strategic partners such as investors, advertisers, and foreign distributors, offering seminars on financial or technological innovations, battling piracy, and facilitating community outreach.

Long-Term Focus: Black professionals and executives must adopt a long-term mental orientation and seek to create institutions that can outlive their founders and nurture the next generation of artists.

Technology and African-Americans: Black life is filled with examples of the use and early-adoption of technological innovations. Pagers and cellular phones (microwave technology),athletic shoes (polymers and physics), hair care products (chemistry), and The Box video music channel (digital compression) all incorporate technological advances into products African-Americans use regularly. Consequently, filmmakers, entrepreneurs and executives must take a broader view of technology and its potential relevance for Black consumers.

The Report, according to Smith, is aimed at the following industry people:

-Studio and independent executives and professionals seeking to forge a strong track record and to identify the most effective exploitation strategies.

-Filmmakers and producers attempting to realize the full value of their projects.

-Investors and entrepreneurs seeking to identify lucrative business opportunities.

-Artists, social activists, and other filmmakers or groups seeking a stronger foothold in the industry.

Scoop Du Jour

by Asondra R. Hunter

Melting The Ice. Do you ever wonder what happens to rappers after they've rapped their last rapped (Vanilla Ice, Hammer, The Young Black Teenagers?) Well, it seems as though one semi-retired rapper, has come out of hiding. Ice T, the author of the best talkmess book of all time The Ice Opinion (comprised of his personal reflections of the world's most controversial figures) has made seven rap albums: Rhyme Pays, Power, Freedom of Speech, Original Gangsta, Home Invasion, Ice T VI: Return of The Real. Now he's releasing The7th Deadly Sin, which should be in stores this spring.

Ice may just be able to pull the rapping thing off once again- although I doubt it. However, as far as creating a demand for Ice T the actor, the star of NBC's "Players" has been mighty successful. He's starred in several movies: Mario Van Peebles' "New Jack City", "Ricochet", "Trespass", "Surviving the Game", "Tank Girl", "Johnny Mnemonic". Most recently Ice landed the role of "the Meat Man" in The Deli". I saw this movie on an advance video and it was quite amusing. Basically, it was John Gallagher and John Dorrian's Italian-American version of Gary Gray's South Central, in the 'hood, in yo' face, film "Friday". Now as you may recall, Ice T was said to be just as lyrically dangerous as N.W.A., a group who was accused of poisoning the minds of America's young with words laced with death. Let's hope his next album doesn't get habitual protesters all riled up. After all, they have better things to worry about... okay, so they don't...

Another rapper who has made quite an enemy with the cops and suburban parents is C-Bo, the Sacramento-based gangsta rapper got arrested for violating his parole. The reason? He put out a gangsta rap album that the cops didn't like. Censorship freaks are really getting out of control and they should have more faith in the parent's right to control what our children are listening to. But here's a tip from a friend, I've heard C-Bo's explosive album and it's not for the kiddies. It contains more gore and curse words than a Wes Craven movie. It you want to let your children listen to good music that informs and assuages, stick to Hanna Barbera's Picnic Basket Classics. This marvelous collection, available on Rhino, is perfect for any impressionable child's ears.

Gloria Naylor is one of my favorite authors and for good reason. She breaks a subject down into terms that anyone from any corner of God's green earth can understand. You've no doubt read the *Women of Brewster Place, Mama Day, Linden Hills,* and *Bailey's Cafe* and you haven't, you just might start reading her past works now that I've put a little bug in your mind. She has, in the past, given life to women who live and make a feeble attempt at thriving on a street that offers nothing more than a bleak backdrop. *The Men of Brewster Place,* her latest literary bijou, is a must-read.

Artz Briefs

All that Jazz Weston is world's best

Randy Weston

MONTCLAIR—Randy Weston, voted the "World's Best Pianist" at the International Roots Festival in Nigeria in 1988, will appear at Montclair State University's Memorial Auditorium on Sunday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. Standard tickets are $25; tickets for seniors, students, MSU faculty, staff, alumni and children are $12.50. For further information and to order tickets, call the MSU Box Office at 973-655-5112.

T.S.Monk: A chunk off the ol' block

T.S. Monk

EWING—Jazz aficionados mark Thursday, March 26 on your calendar. That's the date of T.S. Monk's performance of Monk on Monk: the 80th Anniversary Birthday Tribute to Thelonious Sphere Monk at The College of New Jersey. The performance is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. on the main stage in Kendall Hall. Tickets are $6 for TCNJ students, $10 for TCNJ faculty, staff and senior citizens, and $12 for the general public. For more information call 609-771-

If your hair-do, don't…

Tunani Kinard

NO LYE!
THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN'S GUIDE TO NATURAL HAIR CARE

ORANGE—Tulani Kinard, author, editor and natural hair-care expert and salon owner will perform a reading of her new and highly informative book, No-Lye!: the African-American woman's guide to natural hair care, at Tunde Dada House of Africa in the Woodbridge Mall starting at 2 p.m. on March 28,

Kinard's No-Lye is a detailed road map filled with advise towards maintaining a healthier, chemical-free head of hair that is stylish and highlights the black woman's natural beauty. She says in her book, "We shun natural hair care because we have been told for generations that 'nappy hair is bad and made to feel that the only way to attain 'good' hair is to straighten it 'by any means necessary.' As a healer and teacher I cannot sit back, say nothing, and accept what I know to be destructive to our hair—and to our self-esteem."

For more information on this appearance, call 973-673-4446.

People in the news

NEW YORK (AP)—A sneak peek at fall projects in development for CBS yields some familiar faces, including Arsenio Hall and Melanie Griffith.

Hall, the former talk show host whose comedy "Arsenio" failed at ABC last year, is paired with George Eads in "Skip Chasers," an action series about two bounty hunters.

Griffith revives her ``Working Girl'' persona with "Me and George." She plays a single mom working in a New York public relations firm. George is her baby.

Jim Belushi has signed onto "Better Days," a comedy being developed by "Roger & Me" director Michael Moore. It features two loading dock workers who lose their jobs when the factory moves to Mexico.

The shows were previewed Thursday for advertisers. CBS will announce it fall schedule in May.

Wedding-Showers
Christenings
Corporate Functions-Meetings
Affordable Rates

Park Plaza
Banquet Hall Rental

111 East Front Street
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Telephone
(908)469-7932
Fax (908)469-7520

The degree of red that interests you.
can only be measured by how you red line.
You must stop at the lights...
And try not to beat the fire engines... Just enter the red doors.
Get those red blood cells pumping.
Ooh! Red Alert! It's on the web at http://www.4adodge.com
Now go with your attraction.
Heat up that sleek engine and take off.
Don't go camouflage.
Go 1-800-4ADodge.
The New Dodge
REDLINE
VIPER
DAKOTA
STRATUS
CARAVAN
NEON
ALL-NEW DURANGO
ALL-NEW INTREPID

Bring/mail ads to:
144 North Avenue
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Classified/Legals

Fax legals to:
908-753-1036
24 hours a day

Legal Notice Legal Notice Legal Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

NEW BRUNSWICK HOUSING AUTHORITY
CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
WATER SERVICE REPLACEMENT
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Sealed bids for Contract 97-1 will be received at the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick, 18 Van Dyke Avenue, New Brunswick New Jersey 08901 until 10:00 a.m. prevailing local time April 14, 1998, at which time said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Contract consists of the furnishing and installation of approximately 160 linear feet of 8" ductile iron water main, meter pit and meter, valves, fitting, wet taps, and all appurtenant work, including restoration, all as more particularly indicated, shown or described in the Specifications and Contract Documents.

Contract Documents may be examined at the offices of the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick at the above address or at the offices of the Engineer, Jacobs Environmental Inc. 120 Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854.

Copies of Contract Documents may be obtained only from the offices of the Housing Authority, upon the presentation of the name and mailing address of the interested party and the payment of a non-refundable charge of $50.00 for reproduction and processing. Checks shall be made payable to the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick.

All bids must be accompanied by bid security. The bid security shall be in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond executed by the principal and surety company attorney in fact and witnessed and attested to with the power of attorney attached in the amount of 10% of the amount of the bid but not to exceed $20,000.00 and made payable to the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick.

In addition to the certified check, cashier's check or bid bond as bid security, each bid must be accompanied by a Consent of Surety of a surety company licensed to do business in the State of New Jersey and acceptable to the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick that in event of on award of a Contract to the bidder, said surety will furnish the required bonds in the sum of the full amour t of the bid asset forth and as required herein.

The successful Bidder must furnish a 100% Performance Bond and 100% Labor and Material Payment Bond and a 10% Maintenance Bond.

Should the successful Bidder to which this Contract is awarded fail to comply with the above provisions as to the submission of the required bonds, fully executed or to execute the Contract within the time required herein, the Owner may at it's sole discretion, declare the successful Bidder in default, and shall be entitled to retain the bid security.

Any general information regarding this "Notice" should be directed to Allan Jacobs, Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick Engineer, (732) 457-0700 ext 128. The Engineer will only respond to specific questions on the Contract Documents if same are received in writing at least 10 days prior to the bid date fixed above.

Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of New Jersey P.L. 1975, C.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27), Affirmative Action; P.L. 1963, C.150, Prevailing Wage Act; and P.L. 1975 C.33, Disclosure of Interests, as amended and supplemented.

The Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities or immaterial differences should the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick deem it so be in the public interest to do so.

By order of the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick

John Clarke
Acting Executive Director $182.00

THE OLD BRIDGE TOWNSHIP HOUSING AUTHORITY (OBTHA) SEEKS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP'S)

to provide comprehensive housing counseling to income eligible households seeking Old Bridge Township home purchases. Respondents provide group and individual sessions helping households become "mortgage ready" and eligible for OBTHA Down Payment or Settlement loans. Evaluation criteria includes: Cost; Experience; Curriculum; References; and Professional Certifications. **Completed RFP's (no faxes) due Friday, April 3, 1[illegible] by 4:00 p.m.** Call Renay Grenetz at [illegible]2-721-560[illegible] extension 6415 for a complete RFP application.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY 07712

COMMISSIONER RICKS presents the following resolution

COMMISSIONER RICHMAN seconds the following resolution

RESOLUTION
Notice of Annual Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, New Jersey, that the Annual Meeting of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park shall be held April 13, 1998, at 6:00 p.m. at the Board of Commissioner's Conference Room, in the Administrative Office, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey. The Public Meeting will be opened at 6 p.m. If necessary, the Board will meet in Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. Thereafter, the Board will hold a Workshop Session. The public portion of the meeting will reconvene immediately following Workshop Session, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purposes of the above Annual Meeting are: (1) for annual organization or reorganization of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park; (2) to compile and disseminate a schedule of the Regular Meetings to be held by the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park during the upcoming Fiscal Year; and (3) to conduct such other business as may be necessary for the annual organization and reorganization of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution denominated "NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING", be posted on the bulletin board at the Asbury Park City Hall, Asbury Park, New Jersey, and that a copy of this resolution be filed with the City Clerk of the City of Asbury Park, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Asbury Park Press, the Coaster, and the City News at least seven (7) days prior to said meeting, and posted in City Hall, Asbury Park, County Clerk's Office, County of Monmouth.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION

Commissioner Ricks - yes
Commissioner Hughes - yes
Commissioner Lesinski - absent
Commissioner McGriff - absent
Commissioner Pierre - yes
Commissioner Richman - yes
Commissioner Shelton - yes

I hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park, on the 13th day of April, 1998.

Claudia Sweeney, Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of March, 1998.

Nancy L. Goldie

$148.20

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, New Jersey will receive proposals for a contract for testing, maintenance and inspection services on its fire alarm system at Rocco Impreveduto Tower (HUD Project NJ083-002), 600 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey.

Proposals will be received until 4:00 P.M., on Thursday, March 26th, 1998 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus, 700 County Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey. Proposal documents will be on file beginning February 25th, 1998 at the offices of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

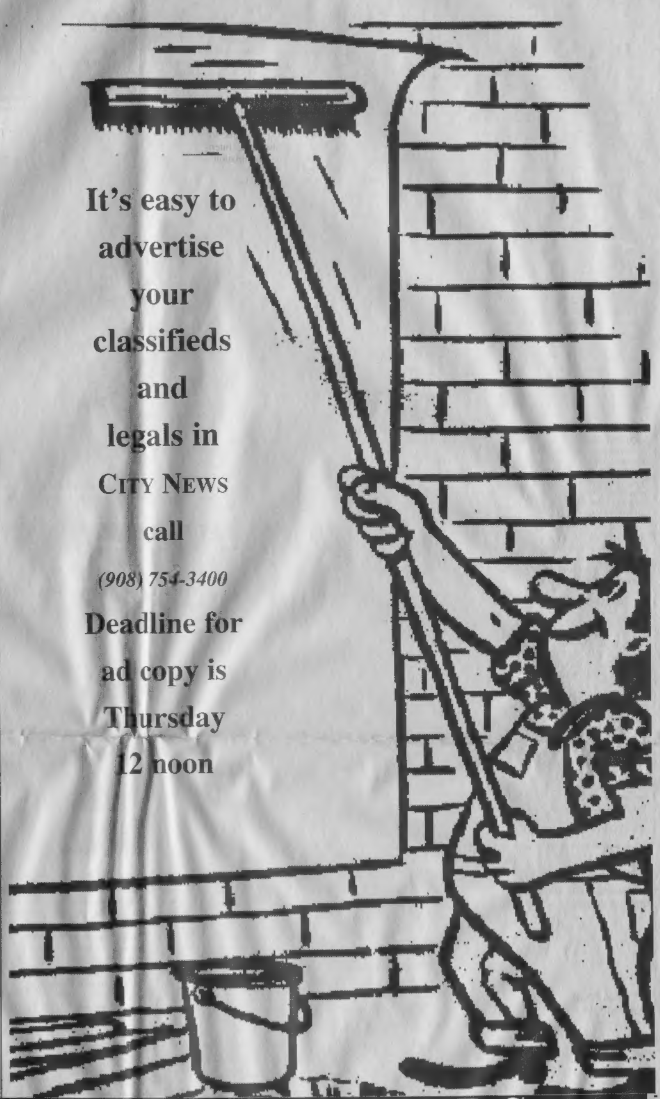
The building and the fire alarm equipment will be available for examination between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. All parties interested in examining the equipment must contact the office prior to going to the building.

All persons submitting a proposal will be required to comply with all Equal Employment Opportunity requirements and pay not less than the prevailing wage rates as established by the U.S. Department of Labor.

The Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to waive any informalities in the proposal process.

No proposal will be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to opening of the proposals without the consent of the Housing Authority of the Town of Secaucus.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF SECAUCUS
William F. Snyder
Executive Director



It's easy to advertise your classifieds and legals in CITY NEWS call

(908) 754-3400

Deadline for ad copy is Thursday 12 noon

CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

WANTED:
Certified Teacher for after-school program at Asbury Park Housing Authority M-F 2:30 - 5:30 / $10 / Hr. Send resume & references to Claudia Sweeney, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000-1/2 Third Ave. Asbury Park, N.J.

WANTED:
Lab Director to run adult computer lab at Asbury Park Housing Authority - capacity 25. GED Program; Sat program: Job Search & other, M-F 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. / $1[illegible] / Hr. Send resume & references to Claudia Sweeney, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000-1/2 Third Ave. Asbury Park, N.J.

WANTED:
Computer Instructor to teach 10-15 adolescents computer tread-down and rebuild as gateway to future employment. 2 Hrs. - 2 X Wk. or more as needed - 12 wk. program / pay negotiable. Send resume and references to Claudia Sweeney, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000-1/2 Third Ave, Asbury Park, N.J.

WANTED:
Recreation Director to coordinate Asbury Park Housing Authority Summer Recreational Programs / Drill Team / Basketball & other. Experience required. June 15 - Sept. 5. Send Resume and references to Claudia Sweeney, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000-1/2 Third Ave., Asbury Park, N.J.

PROOFREADER

Proofreaders are invited to submit your resume to Jan Johnson at City News, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07061. Experience is required.

HELP WANTED

DIRECTOR OF PRIMARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL for girls, located in Union County, seeks experienced educator and administrator to direct Primary School, Nursery to grade 5. Successful candidate will have a B.A. degree (master's preferred), and demonstrate a commitment to single sex education and diversity. This 12-month position, effective July 1, 1998, reports to the Head of School and is part of the administrative team.

TEACHER OPENINGS

Grade 1• Grade 5 •Middle School Earth Science •Upper School Math {experience with University of Chicago Math program preferred}• Primary/Middle School French.

Please send cover letter, resume and recommendations to:

Department R, KENT PLACE SCHOOL, 42 Norwood Avenue,Summit, NJ 07902-0308.

- EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER -

COMPTROLLER

Public Housing Agency seeks individual to oversee financial operations. Responsible for budgets, financial reports, HUD financial requirements and supervision of 8 person staff. Should have HUD accounting experience, computer literacy (knowledge of MAS 90 system a plus), familiarity with Section 8, Public Housing, and Comprehensive Grant Programs.

Send resumes to:
Passaic Housing Authority
333 Passaic Street, Passaic, NJ 07055
Attn: Sandra Ortiz
Equal Opportunity Employer

HELP WANTED

Banking EOE

PT Proof Clerk
Inclearings Administration

Summit Bank offers attractive salaries, comprehensive benefits, and plenty of room for personal and professional growth. To learn more about this opportunity in RIDGEFIELD PARK, and how to apply, please call anytime 7 days/week.

(973) 736-9898
VOICE BOX #44[illegible]0

SUMMIT BANK
Member of the Summit Bancorp

"VOICE BOX" is a registered trademark of VOICE BOX SYSTEMS, Inc.

ACCOUNTANT

Public Housing Agency seeks individual with accounting degree and 1- 2 years experience. Duties include various aspects of accounting CD, CR, GL acct analysis, and HUD financial reports, PC literate with knowledge of spreadsheets and word processing in DOS and windows environment. Knowledge of MAS 90 system a plus. Salary hi 20's to low 30's and good benefits. Send resume to:

Passaic Housing Authority
333 Passaic St., Passaic, NJ 07055
Attn: Sandra Ortiz
Equal Opportunity Employer

FREELANCE WRITERS

Freelance writers are needed to cover newsworthy material. Send your resume to City News, Attn: Glenda Mattox, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07061. Experience required. Must have your own transportation.

HELP WANTED

****Graphic Designer****
Must know QuarkXpress and Photoshop on PC or MAC platforms and have two years experience working with Newspaper layout.
Send resume to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Certified Home Health Aides

in Plainfield area for established non-profit home health agency. Must be avail at least 20 hrs/wk. Benefits avail. EOE. Call VHS 908-233-3113.

PHOTOGRAPHER*

Freelance photographers wanted to cover events throughout New Jersey. Reimbursed for travel expenses. Must be responsible. Developing not necessary. We supply film. Willing to work with new photographers.
Send resume and preferred work hours to:
City News Personnel
PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07060

Teacher, educator wanted

To write and edit a 4-page, monthly National Teacher's Guide. At least two years of teaching experience necessary, preferably grades 6 and up. Send resume to: Y Teacher's Guide, P.O. Box 191, Plainfield, NJ 07060

FOR SALE

1994 HONDA CIVIC
EX
5-SPEED
FULLY LOADED
SUNROOF
CHERRY RED

HELP WANTED

Newspaper
delivery routes
available
throughout
New Jersey
Call
(908) 754-3400

PISCATAWAY
$699
1 BEDROOM
1LW
$915
2 BDRM TOWNHOUSE
PLEASANT VIEW GARDENS
262 CARLTON AVE.
OPEN 7DAYS 9:30-5:30
1 lw
732-968-6348
Includes heat, H.W. Gas, A/C.
Free Swim Club for new residents.
Equal Housing Opportunity

Local Briefs

Partnership opens computer lab in Newark

NEWARK—Women In Support of the Million Man March, Inc. (WISOM-MM) recently announced the Grand Opening of their corporate sponsored state-of-the-art computer lab.

The project is a partnership with the City of Newark, Mayor Sharpe James, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Essex County College. Quitman Street School, PSE&G Co., Home Depot, Harris Electronics and Kindle & Scott Contractors to The lab will service children in the greater Newark area in an after school setting, as well as hosting a Saturday adult literacy program with a focus on the "Work First, Welfare to Work Program".

Four scholarships presented to 100 Black Men

BASKING RIDGE—Lucent Technologies presented 100 Black Men of America, Inc., with four scholarships at a nation-wide video conference on Saturday. The event, held in celebration of Black History Month was hosted by Lucent in Basking Ridge, New Jersey and connected over 25 locations and 1000 participants.

"Our company has a strong commitment to diversity and a long heritage of working with the community," said Michael Dennis, vice president, Field Services, Lucent Technologies. "I can't think of a better way to combine those two than to utilize our technology to both celebrate Black History Month and share information with the next generation," said Dennis, who co-hosted the call with Thomas W. Dortch Jr., national president of 100 Black Men of America, Inc.

Spend Easter week visiting three historic cities

NEWARK—CCS-Quest youth services is sponsoring its annual capitol cities tour to the three most loved cities, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. some of the sites being visited are the Liberty Bell, the slave market, all wars memorial to colored soldiers, the blacks in wax museum, Morgan State University, Howard University, our lady mother of Africa chapel, and much more.

The trip is geared toward children and young people grades 5th-12th, and parents are welcome to join the outing. The cost is $195 per child/student (thru age 18), $225 per adult. Double rooms for adults and quad rooms for youth. The price includes hotel, and four meals are included. The departure is 7 a.m., April 14, returning April 16 at 9 p.m. For more information contact Ms. D. Alma Evens, 973-926-9895

Baraka talks jazz intermingled with politics

By Avery Grant

WEST LONG BRANCH—Amiri Baraka lectured on the history of jazz sprinkled with his inimitable political observations, at Monmouth University.

Baraka, an internationally recognized poet, playwright, novelist, essayist and social activist, is the author of several works on jazz including Blues People, Black Music, and The Music: Reflections on Blues and Jazz.

Baraka said that America will commercialize and make money on anything, but we as blacks don't get what we should. He also lamented that rap started as political music and has become thug music. He warned the audience that when you cannot hear and understand the words of rap or music, it is going into obscurity.

His lecture traced music from its earliest time in Africa to the current gangsta rap and fusion jazz of today. "Drums are basic to all of our music, coming with us out of Africa," he said, "in fact the drum was banned when the master found out that the slaves were using them to pass messages". In his political satire, he told the story of a slave getting his master to realize that every time after hearing the drums, things would happen. "You are right, so I'll take away the drums said the master," retorted Baraka, "and he gave the slave a 'poke' chop for telling him." Baraka asked rhetorically is the drum an instrument of aesthetics or politics.

He mentioned that the word Blues came from the West Coast of Africa in Guinea, where blue was the favorite color, and they loved wearing blue clothing and singing and dancing with emotions and spirit called "jazzu (phonetically)." In America people socialize around sports, in Africa they socialize around the arts. "All cultures learn from each other, but if you cannot benefit from this culture then you are oppressed," Baraka said. He was named Artist-in-Residence at New York University's Institute of Afro-American Affairs during March.

He discussed the talents and techniques of the famous musicians and singers like Charlie Parker, Thelonius Monk, Max Roach, John Coltrane, Count Basie, Billie Holiday, and others. "They put Duke (Ellington) down for playing his famous songs all over," he said, "yet he is the only one who registered over 2000 songs with ASCAP." He said that people have been listening to Bach and the other Classicals, and they are played as precisely as possible each time but Duke never played a song the same way anytime. "It depended on his mood and what happened that day." This is the character of jazz, blues and our music, "It is polyrhythmic, with different sounds at the same time, and filled with emotion and innovation," Baraka said. Mentioning Call and Response in music where instruments respond to each other as though talking, was what the African hunters did to communicate and keep track of each other. Similarly in black churches the minister call and the congregation responds.

In closing, Baraka urged that we established an economic base for music, that has at its base small venues, like concerts and session in your home or garage.

Amiri Baraka, noted poet, educator, author and jazz scholar, autographs his book for Maxine Daniels, community and state human relations activist, after speaking about the Jazz Tradition at Monmouth University.

Poster contest observes County Government Week

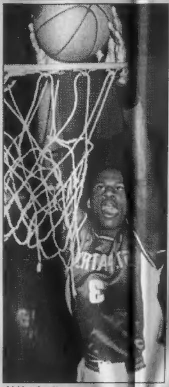
NEWARK—A Poster Contest to promote County Government Week (April 19-25), entitled "My County", is being sponsored by the County Officers Association of New Jersey.

"The contest is open to all fourth grade children throughout the state's 21 Counties, and here in Essex County we're hoping for an enthusiastic response, said County Clerk, Patrick J. McNally.

The deadline to submit posters is April 3. The winners will receive U.S. Savings Bonds, and be invited to meet the County Clerk, Sheriff, Surrogate, and Register, at the Hall of Records, Newark.

For further information on the Poster Contest, call the County Clerk's Office at 973-621-4921, Monday thru Friday.

Subscribe to
CITY NEWS
908-754-3400



Al Harrington

Elizabeth's Harrington Named to McDonald's All American Basketball Team

NEW YORK—McDonald's recently announced St. Patrick High School sensation Al Harrington's selection to the 1998 McDonald's All American Basketball team.

Harrington, of Elizabeth, is one of twenty-four players from across the country that will step into the national spotlight when the 1998 McDonald's All American High School Basketball Game tips off at 8 p.m. from the Scope Arena in Norfolk, VA on Wednesday, March 25.

"For 1,500 young athletes, just being nominated for the team is an honor. For the 24 Team members, being selected is a dream come true," said the former UCLA Coach and college basketball legend John Wooden, chairman, McDonald's All American High School Basketball Advisory Committee.

The 1998 McDonald's All Americans join a list of alumni that reads like a "Who's Who" of basketball greats, including Michael Jordan, Patrick Ewing, Grant Hill, Kevin Garnett and Kobe Bryant; as well as current college stand-outs Mike Bibby, Antwan Jamison, and Raef LaFrentz.

Local Briefs

Teen Arts Festival runs through March

NEWARK— The 27th Annual Newark Teen Arts Festival will take place through Sunday, March 29. The event, which is co-sponsored by the Junior League of Montclair-Newark, will held at the Newark Museum, 49 Washington Street in Newark.

The Newark Teen Arts Festival is a showcase for Newark public high school students with special talents in the visual and performing arts, Dr. Hall explained. "The arts play an important role in nurturing of our students and in enriching our community. We are pleased that so many of our young people have such deep-seated interest in this project and we applaud the efforts of all of those students who submitted entries," Dr. Hall stated.

Local students given opportunity for study abroad

JACKSON—Qualified high school students are offered a unique opportunity to spend an academic year or summer holiday in Scandinavia, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Great Britain, Holland, Spain, Portugal, Czech Republic, Poland, Mexico, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Thailand, China, Taiwan or Canada (French or English speaking) as part of the ASSE International Student Exchange Program", announced Kara Martinsons, Eastern Regional Director of ASSE.

"ASSE families abroad are carefully screened to provide a caring environment in which students can learn the language and culture of their host country", explained Kara Martinsons, Eastern Regional Director of ASSE. "Summer exchange students live with a family abroad who usually speaks some English. ASSE students attend regular high school classes along with their new teenage friends. " Students or families interested in more information about the ASSE program should contact: Denise Turner at 732-364-8917 or 1-800-677-2773.

The Newark Public Schools
2 Cedar Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-51 and the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., the Newark Public School District wishes to announce the following:

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing on the Newark Public School District 1998-1999 Budget will be held on March 24, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. at 2 Cedar Street, Newark, New Jersey. A copy of the budget, as scheduled to be advertised in The Star Ledger (March 18 & 19) and in The El Nuevo Coqui (March19) newspapers, may be examined by interested citizens of Newark at The Newark Public Schools, 2 Cedar Street, Newark, Room 1005 each weekday prior to the public budget hearing between the hours of 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

This budget is being advertised prior to the approval by the County Superintendent of Schools.

Beverly L. Hall
State District Superintendent

Join the networking event of the year
Call 908-754-3400 for your tickets to
CITY NEWS 100 Most Influential

Highly rated!

6 Month Certificate
5.55% Annual Percentage Yield

12 Month Certificate
5.70% Annual Percentage Yield

Minimum only $1,000.
Variety of other rates and terms available.

15 Month Certificate
5.65% Annual Percentage Yield

18 Month Certificate
5.65% Annual Percentage Yield

24 Month Certificate
5.65% Annual Percentage Yield

Rates effective March 18th.
Subject to change without notice. Interest is compounded continuously and payable monthly. Penalty for early withdrawal from certificates.

Passbook savings available!

Invest with the best!

INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK

CORPORATE OFFICE: 249 Millburn Avenue, Millburn • 1-800-252-8119

CHATHAM: 169 Main Street*
CLARK: 56 Westfield Avenue* Bradlees Shopping Center*
COLTS NECK: Highway 34, P.O. Box 127
DEAL: 88 Norwood Avenue, P.O. Box 227
EAST ORANGE: 27 Prospect Street
EDISON: 1655-65 Oak Tree Road*
FREEHOLD: Highway 9 and Adelphia Road*
HILLSIDE: 1128 Liberty Avenue*
IRVINGTON: 34 Union Avenue 1331 Springfield Avenue 1065 Stuyvesant Avenue
LIVINGSTON: 493 South Livingston Avenue* 371 East Northfield Road*
LONG BRANCH: 169 Broadway
MADISON: 18 Waverly Place*
MILLBURN: 243 Millburn Avenue*
NAVESINK: Highway 36 and Valley Drive*
PLAINFIELD: 130 Watchung Avenue*
SCOTCH PLAINS: 437 Park Avenue*
SPRINGFIELD: 173 Mountain Avenue Mountain and Morris Avenues*
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS: Highway 71 and Warren Avenue
TOMS RIVER: 874 Fischer Blvd., Bay Plaza* (Shop Rite Center)
UNION: 977-979 Stuyvesant Avenue Ricket Shopping Center, Route 22*

*Investors' 24-Hour ATM Location

Deposits FDIC insured to $100,000